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TRANSACTIONS

OF

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

Antiquarian Society

1898

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This volume is edited by Mr. Charles W. Sutton.

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VISITS AND EXCURSIONS MADE BY THE SOCIETY IN 1898.

May 14th.—Shrewsbury.

May 28th to June 6th.—Some of the Old Belgian Cities.

June 13th.—Wardley Hall.

June 18th.—Owens College.

July 9th.—Melandra Castle and Broadbottom Hall.

July 11th.—Flixton Church and Shaw Hall.

July 23rd.—Castleshaw.

Aug. 13th.—Vale Royal.

Aug. 22nd.—Kersal Cell.

Meetings for the reading of Papers, Discussions, and Exhibition of Antiquities were held monthly during the Winter Session in the Chetham College, Manchester.

The usual Winter Conversazione was held in the City Art Gallery on the 7th December.

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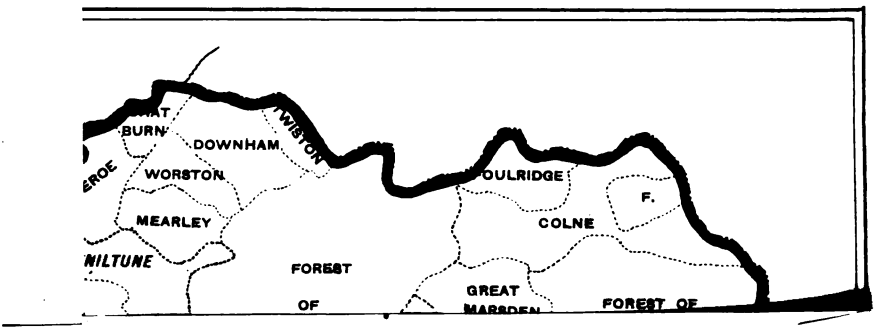
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NOTES ON THE DOMESDAY SURVEY OF THE LAND BETWEEN RIBBLE AND MERSEY.

BY WILLIAM FARRER.

THERE is a fascinating interest in the study of Domesday Book, because our knowledge of the state of this country in the latter half of the eleventh century can be largely extended by a critical analysis of the text of the survey. We, therefore, owe a deep debt of gratitude to past workers in this field of research, such as Sir Henry Ellis, Professor E. A. Freeman, the Rev. Robert Eyton, and to present day workers, such as Horace Round, Professor Maitland, and others, for instruction and guidance in the interpretation of this great survey of England, made more than eight hundred years ago. In the case of our own county of Lancaster, little has hitherto been done to analyse and explain the text of the survey of the county, and more particularly of the district lying south of the Ribble, in spite of the many aids to the interpretation of Domesday now available, such as Eyton's *Key to Domesday*, Round's *Domesday Studies*, and Professor Maitland's *Domesday Book and Beyond*. This is to be explained by the fact that the Domesday Commissioners

have left a very meagre and unsatisfactory account of this district, giving us, with the exception of the survey of the ancient hundred of West Derby, merely a summary of areas assessable to Danegeld, areas held in demesne, areas granted to military tenants, areas of forest, and annual values at different periods. It was, therefore, with considerable misgivings that I took in hand the preparation of a paper to explain and amplify these details, to propose certain interpretations, and to fill up various omissions, or missing details, in a manner which should be reasonable and consistent with our later knowledge of the district. Such a work would have been greatly simplified by twelfth century records, but, unfortunately, these are wanting to a deplorable degree. If, therefore, the following paper is not very explicit upon many points, and deals too largely in hypothesis, the writer claims indulgence upon the ground of paucity of evidence and materials to work upon.

The greater part of England, no doubt including the land between Ribble and Mersey, had been subjected to the tax known as Danegeld, in the time of Ethelred the Unready, that is between 979 and 1016. For the purpose of equal assessment the country was at that time surveyed and subdivided, the hide and carucate being accepted as the unit of assessment. From that time until 1066 there were geld rolls drawn up and carefully adjusted to bring one hide or carucate into fair comparison with another. As the rateable value of a district may vary in our own days in one year as compared with another, or over periods of five or ten years, so too in Saxon times it was found necessary to scrutinise and modify the assessments to Danegeld from time to time. At no period is it likely that the hide or carucate was in any way an exact measure of land. Theoretically, the Lancashire hide

contained six carucates or teamlands, and every teamland represented the area of arable land which a team, or gang of eight oxen, could annually plough. But it was impossible for the basis of assessment to vary with the agricultural outfit of every township, as represented by the number of its oxen fit for the plough, which might vary considerably according to population, the season, the prevalence of or immunity from disease, or destruction by war or wild animals. When, therefore, we speak of a township containing one teamland, we do not mean that it possessed a team of eight oxen, or arable land sufficient for one team to plough, but we mean that such a township was assessed to Danegeld as one carucate of land.

Now the Lancashire hide contained six teamlands, whereas in other parts of the country hide and carucate are practically synonymous, the carucate or teamland being the fiscal unit in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester, which is elsewhere represented by the hide. In some, if not all, of these counties there are distinct signs of a system of grouping manors and townships to form hundreds of six or twelve teamlands. The land between Ribble and Mersey bears a resemblance to both systems, to the one in the fact that here six teamlands were grouped to form a small hundred for assessment purposes; to the other in that we find these groups described as hides, and the whole district as containing four score geldable hides save one. The mixed character of this district, due to its early connection with Northumbria, and subsequent conquest and assimilation by Mercia, is apparent in this, as in other features, such as dialect and place-names. The grouping of six teamlands to form one geldable hide, appears to have been effected with the object of reducing the levy of Danegeld in this district to only one-sixth of

the amount exacted from each geldable teamland in other counties. Probably this very favourable treatment was due to the fact that previous to the Conquest the whole district belonged to the Crown.

The *Chronicles* tell us of the levying of numerous gelds. The earliest in 991, and others in 994, 1002, 1007, 1009, 1014, and 1018. Edward the Confessor levied the tax more than once, but abolished it in 1051. William the Conqueror was no sooner crowned than "he laid on men a geld exceeding stiff," and the following year "he set a mickle geld" on the people. In the winter of 1083-4 he raised a geld of seventy-two pence upon the hide. This was the last assessment before Domesday. At midwinter in the year 1085, the Conqueror "wore his crown at Gloucester, and there had deep speech with his wise men," the outcome being the mission throughout all England of barons, legates, or justices charged with the duty of collecting from the verdicts of the shires, the hundreds, and the townships, a survey or description of the realm. This survey is preserved to us in Domesday Book, completed in 1086. The commissioners were to ascertain (1) the name of each vill, (2) who held it in the time of Edward the Confessor (T. R. E.), (3) who was the present possessor, (4) how many hides or carucates in the manor, (5) how many ploughs in the demesne, (6) how many homagers—*i.e.*, *homines* or men, (7) how many villeins, (8) how many cottars, how many serfs, (9) how many free tenants, (10) how many tenants in socage, (11) how much wood, meadow, and pasture, (12) the number of mills and fishponds, (13) what had been added to, or taken away from the place, (14) what was the gross value in the time of King Edward the Confessor, (15) what was the present value, (16) and how much each freeman or sokeman had, and whether any advance could

be made in the value. This was to be ascertained at three specific periods: firstly, on the day on which King Edward was alive and dead, expressed by the term *tempore Regis Edwardi;* secondly, at the time when the Conqueror bestowed it upon his vassals; thirdly, at the date of the making of the survey.

But before examining the answers given to these questions by the jurors from the six hundreds between Ribble and Mersey, the ownership and territorial condition of this region before the Conquest claims a little attention.

Unfortunately, the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicles* give us very little information about this district. Under the year 798 there is mention of a great battle at Whalley in Northumbria, and under the year 923 there is reference to the reduction of Manchester, in Northumbria, by a Mercian force under King Edward, who afterwards repaired and manned the town. But after the victory of Athelstan at Brunanburgh in 937, over the combined forces of Olaf, the Danish king or earl, and Constantine, king of the Scots, the disintegration of Northumbria commenced. In 945 Cumbria was ceded to Malcolm I., king of Scotland, and before 970 two earldoms had been formed out of the principality, one answering to the modern county of York, the other to the counties of Northumberland and Durham. During this period the country between Ribble and Mersey was added to Mercia. Of this we have clear evidence. Firstly, as a result of this conquest it was placed under the ecclesiastical administration of the Bishop of Lichfield; secondly, it became part of the demesne of the Crown, and was known as *Terra Regis;* thirdly, place-names and dialect are found to have greater affinities with Mercia than Northumbria. On the other hand, Lancashire north of

the Ribble fell under the ecclesiastical administration of the Archdeacon of Richmond, and was in the diocese of York; secondly, it was held by Tostig, earl of Northumberland, as part of that earldom, and place-names and peculiarities of dialect are found, which are strictly Northumbrian in character, and are absent south of the Ribble. Furthermore, when King David of Scotland claimed the earldom of Northumberland from King Stephen, by right of inheritance, he only claimed Lancashire down to the Ribble, and nothing beyond.

One feature to be here noticed is that the six hundreds into which this district was divided were treated as manors, having their respective *mansiones* or manor-houses at West Derby, Warrington, Newton, Salford, Blackburn, and Leyland. There is, however, nothing very exceptional in this, for larger manors are found in Domesday at such places as Leominster in Herefordshire, Berkeley and Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire, and elsewhere. The explanation is to be found in the fact that this district fell into the hands of the Crown by conquest, and was populated by a class of half-free tenants, called thanes and drenghs, whose status was, with few exceptions, little above that of the villeins. Now the collectors of Danegeld did not care to deal with many half-free taxpayers, especially when the taxpayers owed suit and service to some lord of high estate. In this district in Saxon times that lord was the king, and so the geld was charged against his great manor-houses of West Derby, Warrington, Newton, Salford, Blackburn, and Leyland, and the men whose berewicks or sub-manors "lay in" their lord's greater or capital manor had to bring thither their rent, to resort thither for legal redress, and also to bring thither their contribution to the Danegeld, and the lord was held responsible to the collectors for the whole.

But, although the status of the thanes and drenghs appears to have been more servile than in some parts of England, it must not be supposed that the villeins and bordars of this district were less free than others of their class. On the contrary, their position upon manors of royal demesne ensured legal rights in their holdings, greater freedom, better justice, and more consideration than if some other than the king had been their lord. After the Conquest there was a considerable levelling tendency—thanes became half-free villeins, and the villein status gained in freedom and legal rights. By the end of the twelfth century there was no great amount of villeinage in Lancashire, what there was being mostly confined to estates of royal demesne, or the demesne of the greater military feudatories.

Now the dependency of the berewicks and sub-manors between Ribble and Mersey upon six great manors, and the obligations of suit and service to be performed by the tenants at the six capital manor-houses, explains the scantiness and bareness of the details collected by the Domesday commissioners within this district. The king himself being lord of the whole, no more details than those recorded were required. Just the same lack of particulars is met with in Domesday in the case of such enormous manors as those mentioned as existing at Leominster, Berkeley, and Tewkesbury.

But if we have a lack of territorial details, we have, at any rate, an exceptionally full account of the *consuetudines* or dues customary to this country. This word *consuetudo* occurs frequently in the survey of this district: "Some of the lands in Salford hundred were quit of all custom except geld, and some were even quit of geld." "Ughtred held Crosby and Kirkdale, and was quiet or quit of all custom (*consuetudo*) except six." "Otegrim-meol, Halsall,

and Hirlton with their members were quit of the geld of teamlands, and forfeiture for bloodshed and rape, but they rendered all other dues." The word covers rent, taxes, and forfeitures or profits arising from the right to administer justice. Professor Maitland explains the use of the word in the latter sense, because crime is a source of revenue, and therefore a *due* to him who may punish offences.

Firstly, as regards rent paid to the king. We are told, under the manor of West Derby, that all the thanes had the custom of paying two ores of pennies for each carucate or teamland. An ore being thirty-two pence, they paid 5s. 4d. for each carucate assessed to Danegeld As will be shown later, this works out correctly in the hundreds of West Derby and Warrington, but the other four hundreds paid more, the suggested explanation being that a considerable revenue arose from the pasturage and pannage of the woods.

Secondly, as regards services. The thanes by custom repaired the king's dwelling-houses and all that belonged to them, as the villeins did. (Note this, that as regards these services the thanes and the villeins were upon the the same footing.) They also by custom repaired the king's fisheries, and his hays or enclosures in the woods, and his deer-hays or fences. Anyone neglecting to go and perform these services when due, made amends by a fine of two shillings, and afterwards went to the work and worked until it was finished. Each one of them by custom sent his reapers one day in August to reap the king's crops on the demesne. Failing to do so, he made amends by a fine of two shillings.

Thirdly, as regards emendable crimes. If any freeman committed theft, forsteal (*i.e.*, ambush), ham-fare (*i.e.*, violated the peace and safety of a man's own house), or

broke the king's peace, he made amends by a fine of forty shilllings. If anyone caused bloodshed, or ravished a woman, or remained away from the shire-moot (*i.e.*, county court) without reasonable excuse, such as sickness or impassable roads, he made amends by a fine of ten shillings. If he remained away from the hundred court, or neglected to go to pleas when and where the reeve ordered, he made amends by five shillings; and if the reeve ordered him to go upon a service, and he went not, he made amends by four shillings. Here we see the heavy fine of forty shillings imposed as the penalty for crimes which were known as the king's forfeitures, *i.e.*, crimes punishable by the king, to whom the profits arising from the administration of justice in such cases belonged. Other crimes, not falling within this category, were punishable by smaller fines. The shire-moot was held thrice yearly, in no fixed place, like the sheriffs' tourn of the Norman and Plantagenet kings. The sheriff (*i.e.*, shire reeve) was the constituting and presiding officer, the thanes were the suitors or doomsmen, together with all lords of lands, priests, public officers, and from every township the reeve and four sworn men. The hundred court was held every six weeks, perhaps every month. The presiding officer was the reeve of the hundredal manor where the court was held, the doomsmen were the thanes, the parish priest and other lords of land, and the four best men of each township, as in the shire-moot. The summons of the reeve to pleas, or to go on a service, corresponds in post-Conquest times with the suit of the doomsmen or judges to the hundred courts to hear pleas, and with the obligation of free tenants to perform the services known as "bode and witness," *i.e.*, laying information and carrying messages to or from the court in connection with the detection and punishment of

crime, and attending at court to give evidence. In the reigns of the Norman and Plantagenet kings, the obligation of going on the king's service when required by the reeve was partially commuted into puture, *i.e.*, finding meat and drink for the king's "grith-sergeants," or preservers of the peace, and, in townships within the jurisdiction of the forests, for his foresters. But other public services, such as bridge making and repairing, carrying, &c., remained as before the Conquest.

Fourthly, as regards freedom and inheritance, we read that if any one wished to withdraw from the king's land, he gave forty shillings and went wheresoever he listed. To a certain extent, therefore, the thane was bound to the land like the villein. If any one wished to have the land of his deceased father, he paid a relief of forty shillings. If he did not wish, then the king had the land and all the stock and crop of the deceased father. One cannot help thinking that this custom was subject to modification. It gave the king the right to claim and take a heriot, or, in default, to take the deceased father's land, stock, and crop. The tenancy being for life only, forty shillings represented the highest sum which the king might claim for heriot. He might take less, and probably, as a rule, the relief was affeered or moderated by the hundred court. This also applies to the man who wished to withdraw from the king's land.

Certain variations of tenure, status, and custom will be noted under the survey of each hundred.

A few words in passing respecting the various classes of free tenants mentioned in the survey. Firstly of the thanes. Domesday shows that the tenure by which they held their land varied in nature between thane and lord, from a mere commendation, which could at any time be dissolved without fine or payment, so that the thane

could go with his land under another lord, to a condition shown to exist between Ribble and Mersey, where the thane held merely a life interest, and could neither give nor sell his land, and was further compelled to perform servile duties "like the villein," as well as ministerial duties, such as the king's serjeants performed. This looks very like the effect of conquest consequent upon the subjection of Northumbria to King Athelstan in the tenth century. In all cases it is clear that the thane was a man of war, and went to the wars with his lord. More than a hundred years later than Domesday, viz., in the rebellion of 1193-4, we find the Lancashire thanes arrayed in arms with their chief lord, John, count of Mortain, and contending against their sovereign King Richard.

Of the drenghs, as distinct from the thanes, little can be ascertained. They were found between Ribble and Mersey only in the hundreds of Newton and Warrington, and were only less free than the thanes of West Derby in that they reaped two days more in the king's fields in harvest time. Etymologically the drengh (A.S. "dreng") appears to have been a servant, or serjeant, approaching the position of a Norman esquire, whereas the thane (A.S. "þegn") was a knight, or freeholding military tenant.

The same remarks apply to the riding-men, or *radmanni*, who are found at Childwall, Penwortham, and elsewhere. They appear to have differed from the thanes in respect only of the services which they performed. Domesday elsewhere shows that they occupied the position of serjeants, or *servientes*, in riding about on their lord's behalf, and doing whatever was commanded them.

Burgesses are mentioned only at Penwortham, where

there were six of this class. It is probable that they held burgage tenements in connection with Penwortham Castle, "to do wall work and hoard provisions, sent in to meet the evil day, when all men would wish to be behind the walls of a *burh*" (Maitland's *Domesday Book and Beyond*, p. 190).

Of the unfree classes we have mention of villeins, bordars, neatherds, or *bovarii*, serfs, and maids. Of the villeins it must here suffice to say that they were a half-free class of men possessing oxen and cultivating the soil, partly on their own holdings, partly on the lord's demesne, unable to give or sell their land or withdraw themselves, but, nevertheless, having some sort of tenant right, which gradually grew and ripened, through the status of tenants at will under the Plantagenet kings, into the secure and independent status of tenants by copy of court roll under the Tudor kings. These men were the predecessors of our Lancashire copyholders. At the time of Domesday, and to a gradually decreasing extent until the fourteenth century, they and their offspring, with their goods and chattels, were the property of the lord.

The bordarii or bordars were cottars or small holders, seldom possessing oxen, and having small tenements. They were rather less free than the villeins. Both classes are seen in the extents of manors of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the villeins holding oxgangs of land in bondage at a money rent, and owing small sums of money for dayworks remitted, the bordars holding cottage lots at small rents, often paid in kind, and also owing dayworks or small commuted payments in lieu thereof.

The neatherds or bovarii might belong either to the half-free class of the bordars, or to the unfree class of serfs, but their condition must have been comparatively

free, often dwelling away from the manor-house, in the woods and on the hill pastures. They were the predecessors of the boothmen of the medieval vaccaries. Lastly, the serf and maid belonged to the lowest class, having no legal rights; they were, in fact, their lord's chattels, performing menial duties about the manor-house.

It has been already said that the Domesday Survey is a geld book, or, as one might say, a rate book, to be used in the assessment and collection of Danegeld. Nor was information collected only for the purpose of levying and collecting the tax. It was also required for the purpose of exemption and remission. How large and important the latter class was, will best be understood by quoting a passage from Eyton's *Key to Domesday*. "It was a principle of the Gheld-Laws, if not from the earliest date, yet as they stood in the Confessor's time, that not only the ancient Crown demesnes were to be absolutely ingeldable, but that the *bonâ fide* demesnes of the thanes or other tenants *in capite* should be exempted from any current gheld-levy. Such an exemption, perpetuated by the Normans, was nothing more nor less than a *quid pro quo* for the military and other services to which these tenants *in capite* were personally liable." Now this will only partially apply to the survey of our district in the time of the Confessor, such as in the case of royal demesne, and in Salford hundred, where we are told that some of the estates were quit of all dues, except geld, and some were even quit of geld. Throughout the rest of the district T. R. E. Danegeld was paid by the thanes and drenghs. But after the Conquest, with the introduction of military service, came exemption from geld, at any rate for those hides and carucates which were held in demesne by military tenants. Thus, in the Pipe Roll of

1130, notices of exemption to geld granted upon the demesnes of the great feudatories are frequently met with. So then, geld being charged against the six great manor-houses of this district, it was not necessary to survey each hundred, berewick by berewick, or sub-manor by sub-manor. But it was necessary to ascertain very fully the amount of land held in demesne. Accordingly, in the case of five hundreds out of the six, we have details of the number of plough teams on Count Roger's demesne, and upon the demesne of his knights, and also particulars in some instances of the population upon such demesne lands. But we are not told in any of the hundreds how many plough teams, or what population there was upon the estates of the thanes or drenghs, or of the free tenants or villeins upon Count Roger's demesne. This omission has led the county historians to suppose that the area of cultivation, and amount of population was much less than it really was.

West Derby Hundred.

In West Derby hundred in 1066 there were, including the demesne, fifty-one manors paying rent, and fifteen manors rent free, paying only Danegeld. In the time of Edward the Confessor there were sixty-one thanes possessing manors or homesteads, not including the tenants of the demesne. Between them they had ninety-three teamlands and three oxgangs of land. The demesne was twenty-four teamlands, where in 1066 there were fifteen plough teams. How many of these thanes survived the Conquest we do not know, but after Count Roger of Poictou received this district from the King, he enfeoffed eight knights of fifty-one and a half teamlands in this hundred. Of these, thirty and a half were in demesne,

upon which these knights had four plough teams, and forty-six villeins, one riding-man, sixty-two bordars, two serfs, and three maids, having among them twenty-four plough teams, or half a team to each villein. As the whole was only worth £8. 12s., it is clear that the villeins were practically free tenants, probably some of them, perhaps many of them, pre-Conquest thanes who had sunk into a state of villeinage or little better. But we have only dealt with some thirty and a half teamlands of the fifty-one and a half held by Count Roger's knights; the remaining twenty-one were undoubtedly held by free tenants. Fortunately we have particulars of the number of plough teams upon the whole of the estates held by Count Roger's military vassals between Ribble and Mersey in 1086. The total of the teamlands so held was one hundred and twenty-five and a half, and we are told of the knights holding these fees that "Among them and their men (*homines*) there are one hundred and fifteen teams and three oxen." Applying, then, this rate to West Derby we get thirty and a half teamlands in demesne with twenty-eight teams, and a population engaged in tilling the soil of one hundred and fourteen souls; and twenty-one teamlands held by freemen, having by estimation nineteen teams and three oxen, and an estimated population of agriculturists of seventy-eight or seventy-nine souls. Upon the same basis we should get the following results for the whole Domesday hundred of West Derby: Sixty-six manors, one hundred and seventeen teamlands and three oxgangs, one hundred and seven plough teams and seven oxen, and a population of four hundred and thirty-nine souls engaged in the cultivation of the soil. Allowing for women and children, craftsmen and herdsmen, priests and officers, it would surely not be too much to multiply this number by seven,

and state the probable populalation of the hundred at three thousand and seventy-three souls, giving an average of forty-six persons or about ten families to each manor or berewick.*

Two churches are inferentially named as existing before Domesday in West Derby hundred, one at Childwall, where there was a priest holding half a carucate of land, and the other at Walton-on-the-Hill, to which belonged one carucate of land held by a priest in Bootle. There can be little doubt, however, that parish churches also existed, as the centres of ecclesiastical districts, at Sefton, Halsall, and Ormskirk. The absence of any mention of churches upon the estates of the thanes is quite consistent with the omission of almost all other details of this particular class of estate. For this reason it is absurd to perpetuate the mistake generally made by local historians, that because many of the ancient parish churches of this district are not mentioned, therefore they did not exist before the Conquest.

Ughtred, the thane who held Little Crosby and Kirkdale for one hide, was much freer than the other thanes of the hundred. Thus we are told that this hide was quit of all dues except six, viz., peace-breach, ambush, hamfare, continuing to fight after having made oath to desist, paying a debt to anyone after being pledged to the reeve upon a judgment, and neglecting to attend court upon a day appointed by the reeve. For these forfeitures he made amends by fine of forty shillings. As to Danegeld, he paid it like the other men of the country. His greater freedom lay in this, that he did not owe any servile duties, and could sell or give his land. As regards

* See particulars of the total *estimated* population of the district in the table facing page 38.

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DEMESNE.

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table facing page 38.

other estates in Roby, Knowsley, Kirkby, Maghull, and "Achetun," held by the same Ughtred, or by other thanes of the same name, he, or they, were under the same customs as other thanes. Dot, the thane of Huyton and Torbock, was also a free thane, for it is said that he held these manors for one hide, which was quit from all customs or dues except Danegeld.

There was another group of manors which was in the enjoyment of particular exemptions. Otegrim-meol (now North-meols) and Erenger-meols or Argar-meols (now part of Birkdale), Lathom, Hurleton, part of Martin, Melling, Lydiate, Down Holland, Altcar, Barton, and Halsall, were held by twelve thanes for three hides, among whom Ughtred (the thane) again figures as lord of Lathom and Burscough, Hurleton and Martin, Lydiate and Altcar. These hides were quit of the geld of teamlands—that is, of the rent or ferm of two ores of pennies paid to the king for each teamland, and of the forfeitures of bloodshed and rape. But they rendered all other dues. It is noteworthy that the Domesday values of this district in 1086 are in all cases equivalent to exactly half the rent of the plough teams, viz., 2s. 8d. or one ore, instead of 5s. 4d. or two ores, except where the land was more or less quit of customs, in which case the values are at a higher rate. This is seen in the case of Dot's manors of Huyton and Torbock, where half the rent of a hide being normally sixteen shillings, the value is given as twenty shillings, and in the case of the three hides in Otegrim-meol, Halsall, and Hurleton, half the rent of £4. 16s., which had been remitted, would have been £2. 8s., but the Domesday values add to £2. 18s. 6d. These figures suggest that the rent of the teamlands was equal to two-thirds the annual value of the land, so that the conditions under which the thanes

held their land was such that the king or Count Roger got two-thirds and the freeholding thane got one-third of the annual value.

There was not very much wood in West Derby at the date of Domesday. On the demesne manor of West Derby, partly in Croxteth, there was wood two leagues long by one wide, or two thousand eight hundred and eighty statute acres. On Ughtred's manors five thousand seven hundred and sixty acres. In Woolston sixty acres. In Lathom seven hundred and twenty acres. In Melling the same. In Lydiate two hundred and forty acres. Total, ten thousand three hundred and eighty statute acres.

The oxgang of land in Lancashire averaged about ten customary or fifteen statute acres. The teamland therefore contained about one hundred and twenty statute acres. Thus, the whole Domesday hundred of West Derby contained fourteen thousand and eighty-five statute acres of arable land. Domesday accounts for woodland ten thousand three hundred and eighty acres, leaving one hundred and twelve thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine acres of pasture and waste. But it is probable that the whole of the wood in Dalton and Up-Holland was included in Newton hundred, as will be seen presently.

It is not possible to include within the scope of this paper a detailed account of the changes which took place in the tenure of land in this district after the Conquest, and after the forfeiture of Count Roger in 1102. The following notes must suffice. The military fiefs consisted of fifty-one and a half carucates, made up partly of the count's demesne, and partly of the pre-Domesday estates of Ughtred, Dot, and other thanes, who either forfeited their estates, or by commendation became free tenants under the count's knights. Of these, Geoffrey, the

sheriff, had twelve and a half carucates, William fitz-Nigel, baron of Halton, had nine carucates. . The other six knights have not been identified, because they probably suffered forfeiture with their chief lord in 1102. William fitzNigel's fee alone continued, and, together with his fee in Warrington hundred, formed the reputed barony of Widnes. The Manchester fee in this hundred, and the Molyneux fee were not created until a few years after 1086.

To the capital manor of West Derby belonged six berewicks, the whole being rated at twenty-four teamlands. The land was sufficient for fifteen teams. From later records we ascertain that West Derby three teamlands, Hales one teamland, Great Crosby four teamlands, and Thingwall one teamland, were manors of ancient demesne. Other manors not named in Domesday are afterwards found in demesne, viz., Everton three teamlands, Fazakerley one teamland, and Croxteth one teamland; and the following, not named in Domesday, are afterwards found to have been granted out in thanage or fee farm, viz., Garston four teamlands, Liverpool one teamland, Newsham half a teamland, Bickerstaffe and Simonswood half a teamland. This gives twenty teamlands against an assessment to geld of four hides or twenty-four teamlands. Count Roger undoubtedly gave some part of his demesne to his vassals, which would be included in 1086 in the fifty-one and a half teamlands held by his knights, but we have no means of identifying the estates. When, in the year 1094, he gave tithe of foals, calves, lambs, goats, swine, and of corn, cheese, and honey, upon his demesnes in Lancashire to the abbey of Sees, his demesne in this hundred embraced West Derby, Hale, Everton, Walton, Crosby, and [Raven's (?)] Meols.

Out of the total area of the hundred, forty teamlands and three oxgangs still remained in the year 1086 in the hands of thanes. This approximates very nearly to the area of the estates held in thanage and fee-farm in the year 1212, and represents the holdings of the old Saxon and Danish families, who escaped forfeiture at the Conquest, or during the subsequent rebellions in which Count Roger was involved, whereby he ultimately lost his Lancashire fief.

Before passing to Newton hundred, several corrections should be noted in the translation of Domesday, printed in all the editions of Baines's *History of Lancashire*. The abbreviated formula "car' tr̃e" stands for *carucata terræ* or "teamland," but where "car'" stands alone it ought usually to be extended *caruca*, a plough or plough team. The Domesday township called *Mele*, judging by the area given, should be identified as Ravens-meols. Wibaldeslei is a lost township now involved in Great and Little Woolton. These, although named as Ulventune and Uvetone, have only an area of three teamlands, whereas in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries they contained five teamlands. Erengermeols must be identified as the later Argarmeols, a name which survived to the time of Elizabeth, but has since become involved in Birkdale, or perhaps partially in the sea. Otegrimele must be identified as North Meols, the suggestion of Orrel in Sefton being untenable, because that hamlet was included in the Domesday area of Sefton, viz., one hide. Orrel, near Pemberton, is a still wilder shot, for it removes the place out of Newton hundred into that of West Derby. The same remark applies to the identification of Hiretun as Tarleton, in Leyland hundred, instead of Hurleton in Scarisbrick.

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NEWTON HUNDRED.

Newton hundred was practically coterminous with the parishes of Wigan and Winwick. On the day on which King Edward the Confessor was alive and dead, viz., January 5th, 1066, there were in this hundred five hides or thirty teamlands. The church of the manor, that is, the church of Wigan, had one teamland, and St. Oswald of the same town, that is, of Winwick, had two teamlands, quit of all customs or dues, including Danegeld. The demesne hide was composed of Newton three teamlands, Wigan one, and Winwick two, total six.

Fifteen freemen, called drenghs, held the rest of the hundred for fifteen manors, which were, however, berewicks of the capital manor of Newton. Among them all they rendered thirty shillings. The whole hundred rendered to the king a ferm of £10. 10s. The freemen (*liberi homines*) of this hundred, except two, were in the same custom (*i.e.*, owed the same customs and dues) as the men of Derby, and, besides those, they reaped two days more in August in the king's cornfields. Those two freemen had five teamlands (possibly to be identified as the manor of Golborne), and the forfeiture for bloodshed and rape, and the pannage of their own men, *i.e.*, they, and not the king, took payment from their tenants for the right to pasture swine upon the oak and beech mast in the woods belonging to those five teamlands. How important that exaction must have been, is apparent from the statement that there was wood there, *i.e.*, in this hundred, ten leagues long by six leagues and two quarentines wide, that is, fifteen miles by nine and a quarter miles, or an area of eighty-eight thousand, eight hundred statute acres. The king had the other dues, that is, the other forfeitures, which were enumerated under West

Derby hundred. This is all that Domesday tells us of the state of Newton hundred in 1066.

One point strikes us at once. The fifteen drenghs only paid a rent of thirty shillings, and yet the whole hundred yielded £10. 10s. They had twenty-four teamlands between them, thirteen holding nineteen teamlands, and two extra-freemen holding five. The explanation seems to be that they paid no geld of the teamlands, but were exempt like the thanes of Otegrim-meol, Halsall, and Hurleton, in West Derby hundred, but they paid a rent of two shillings for each *mansio* or berewick, and the balance of the rent of the hundred, viz., £9 proceeded from the demesne, and from such sources as the pannage of swine in the eighty-eight thousand, eight hundred acres of wood, and the profits of the hundred courts. If this explanation is the true one, it discloses a totally different fiscal basis here, to that recorded in West Derby hundred. But the conditions were obviously quite different. In the latter hundred, containing an estimated area of one hundred and thirty-seven thousand three hundred and thirty-four acres, there were fourteen thousand and eighty-five acres of arable, ten thousand three hundred and eighty acres of wood, and one hundred and twelve thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine acres of pasture and waste; while to the Domesday townships of Newton hundred, containing an estimated area of forty-six thousand and forty-four acres, of which but three thousand six hundred acres were arable, and an unknown area of pasture and waste, there belonged the enormous extent of eighty-eight thousand eight hundred acres of wood, representing a length of fifteen miles, and a width of nine and a quarter, evidently extending into many townships, lying in the neighbouring hundreds of West Derby, Warrington, Salford, and probably Leyland also. The capital manor was well named "the New-tun,"

for the description of this hundred points to the comparatively recent growth of small townships in clearings amid vast oak woods, the like of which in this country may perhaps best be seen to-day in the Forest of Dean.

The description of this hundred in 1086 is confined to two lines: "Now there are there six drenghs, and twelve villeins and four bordars. Between them all they have nine plough-teams. This demesne is worth £4." Clearly this information—being all that was required for Danegeld assessment purposes—relates to the demesne only. The original hide appears to have grown since the Conquest, by forfeiture, escheat, or resignation, to two hides or twelve teamlands, leaving two and a half hides or fifteen teamlands in the hands of free tenants, after allowing for the lands which belonged to the churches of Wigan and Winwick. The king himself, or Count Roger, had no teams on the demesne. It was wholly farmed by the twenty-two men, and yielded a rent of four pounds a year. By a similar calculation to that already used, the population tilling the soil may be estimated at one hundred and twelve, and the total population of the hundred at only seven hundred and eighty-four souls, In 1086 no part of the hundred had been bestowed by Count Roger upon his vassals. But before the year 1164, a knight's fee, consisting of nine and a half teamlands in Lowton, Kenyon, Golborne, and Arbury, had been created by King Stephen, or his son William, count of Boulogne. In 1212 fourteen teamlands were held in thanage or by serjeanty. These and the military fee, with three teamlands belonging to the churches, and three and a half teamlands of Crown demesne in Newton, made up the Domesday area of five hides.

WARRINGTON HUNDRED.

The third hundred between Ribble and Mersey was Warrington, called in Domesday "Walintune." "King Edward held Warrington with three berewicks. There was one hide there. To the same capital manor belonged thirty-four drenghs, and they had as many manors, in which there were forty and two teamlands, and one and a half hide. Saint Elfin held one teamland, quit of all custom, except geld. The whole manor with the hundred rendered to the king for ferm £15, less two shillings." Total, thirty-four manors and fifty-seven teamlands.

The three berewicks, viz., Orford, Little Sankey, and Penketh, each contained one teamland; and Warrington, the capital manor, three teamlands, of which the church, dedicated to St. Elphin, held one. These composed the demesne hide. Deducting the teamland belonging to the church, which was quit of the geld of teamlands, we find fifty-six teamlands rendering a yearly ferm of 5s. 4d. (two ores of pence), making a total of £14. 18s., less eightpence remitted upon an odd oxgang. The customs of Warrington hundred were evidently similar to those of the neighbouring hundred of West Derby. There is no mention of any wood in this hundred. If there was any, it was probably included in the one hundred and thirty-eight and three quarter square miles of forest recorded in the survey of Newton hundred.

In 1086 there were two plough-teams on the demesne hide, and eight men, probably villeins, with one plough-team. This demesne was worth £3. 10s. Three ploughs to five teamlands leaves room for some free tenants farming part of the demesne. Count Roger had enfeoffed seven vassals of thirty-two teamlands. Among them we recognise William fitzNigel, baron of Halton, holding six-

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teen teamlands in Sutton, Eccleston, Rainhill, Appleton with Widnes, Cronton, and Astley, exactly the same area that we find in thirteenth century feodaries, as belonging to the reputed barony of Widnes in this Domesday hundred. The other fees were doubtless forfeited by their holders in or before 1102, and regrouped by Henry I. The fees of Theobald, Ralph, and Adelard make a total of thirteen teamlands, which exactly corresponds with the area of the Boteler fee of Warrington, in this hundred. The three odd teamlands were probably incorporated in the barony of Manchester when that fief was created by Count Roger, or Henry I.

Of these thirty-two teamlands held by knights, the portion in demesne was worth four pounds ten shillings. By estimation there would be twenty-nine plough teams and three oxen upon these estates, divided between fifteen teamlands of demesne, and seventeen teamlands held by free tenants under the count's knights. Nineteen teamlands were still in the hands of drenghs. But in 1212 there only remained of these estates Bold, La Quick, and Ditton, containing together five teamlands, held in thanage. Whiston, containing four and a half, had become part of the Forest fee held by serjeanty. The remainder lay in Parr, Bedford, Rainford, and Pennington, of which the thirteenth and fourteenth century tenure has not been ascertained. The church of Prescot is not named in the survey, but there was undoubtedly a Saxon church here, as the name itself proves to us. By a similar estimate to that already employed in calculating the population of West Derby hundred, we shall obtain an estimated population of two hundred and thirteen persons engaged in tilling the soil, and a total population in the hundred of one thousand four hundred and ninety-one souls. The whole hundred, including Haigh

and Culcheth, contained an estimated area of seventy thousand five hundred and fifty acres, of which only six thousand eight hundred and forty acres were arable, the remainder being pasture and waste.

Blackburn Hundred.

The next hundred, taking the order in which they are surveyed in Domesday, is Blackburn or Blacheburn, so called from the burn which was not black, but the opposite, viz., pale or shining (A.S. "Blác"). The provincial pronunciation preserves the true etymology—Blake-burn. So does the Domesday spelling, in which the Italian clerks employed in the Treasury, preserved the hard "c" before the vowel "e" in the form Blache.

"King Edward held Blackburn, there are two hides and two teamlands there. The church of Blackburn had two oxgangs of this land, and the church of St. Mary had two teamlands in Whalley, quit of all custom, including geld. In this manor there was wood a league long and the same in breadth. In the same hundred King Edward had Huncoat for two teamlands, Walton-in-ledale for two teamlands, and Pendleton for half a hide." The demesne was therefore large in this hundred, extending to twenty-one teamlands. In endeavouring to trace the locality of this demesne, we must be guided by thirteenth century evidences, and especially by that contained in the inquest taken after the death of Edmund de Lacy in 1258, the probability being that what was in demesne at that date had continued so from the time of Domesday. The townships which were in demesne appear from this evidence to have been Blackburn, Whalley, Padiham, Burnley, Briercliffe, and Little

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Marsden two hides and two teamlands; Pendleton half a hide, and Walton and Huncoat each two teamlands, making up the complement. There was only an extent of one thousand four hundred and forty acres of wood in this demesne. At Whalley and Blackburn were Saxon churches, the centres of two large parishes, which remain to this day the only two mother churches of the hundred.

We are not told what this demesne was worth, nor how many teams were upon it. Before 1086, Count Roger had given the whole of this hundred to Roger de Busli and Albert Greslet. The former was a tenant in chief holding a large fief in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, and several other counties. The latter held no lands in chief, but he was under-tenant of Count Roger's manor of Hainton, county Lincoln. In 1114-16 his son, Robert Greslet, held several estates in the same county, of Stephen, count of Mortain, as of the honour of Lancaster. In 1086 the demesne appears to have been wholly set to farm to so many men, probably villeins, who had eleven and a half plough teams, but the land was in poor cultivation, and the lords had granted that these men should be quit of the payment of ferm for three years, consequently the demesne was not valued at the date of the survey.

Returning to the year 1066, the survey tells us that "To this manor or hundred there belonged twenty-eight freemen (*liberi homines*), holding five and a half hides and forty teamlands for twenty-eight manors. The wood there was six leagues long and four broad, *i.e.*, it extended over an area of fifty-four square miles, or thirty-four thousand five hundred and sixty acres. This represented, no doubt, the Forests of Pendle, Trawden, Accrington, and Rossendale, the acreage of which corresponds closely with the Domesday measurement. These twenty-eight

freemen were subject to the same customs as the men of West Derby hundred. The whole manor, with the hundred, rendered to the king a ferm of £32. 2s., which represented a rent of 5s. 4d. on ninety-two teamlands, total, £24. 10s. 8d.; and a sum of £7. 11s. 4d. for pannage of swine in the woods, and the rent received from the demesne lands, over and above the customary rate of two ores of pennies. The estimated total area of this hundred at Domesday is one hundred and fifty-one thousand, one hundred and forty acres. Of this eleven thousand, two hundred and eighty acres were under the plough, and there were thirty-six thousand acres of wood; the remainder, amounting to one hundred and three thousand, eight hundred and sixty acres, was pasture and waste. About seven and a half per cent of the whole was, therefore, under the plough. According to the apparent proportion of tillers of the soil to each teamland in West Derby hundred, the population engaged in agriculture in Blackburn hundred may be estimated at three hundred and fifty-two persons, and the whole population of the hundred at two thousand four hundred and sixty-four souls.

The hundreds of Blackburn and Salford appear to have been over-rated to geld, according to the Domesday assessment, as compared with the other four hundreds. That this was so, and that the basis of assessment of some townships was reduced at a date subsequent to Domesday, appears from the case of Pendleton, which was rated in the survey at half a hide, or three teamlands, but in the thirteenth century was always described as two teamlands. The clearest instance of reduction will be seen further on, in the case of Rochdale. The reduction seems to have been made upon estates held for a hide, or half a hide, which were respectively reduced to

four and two teamlands, a reduction of one-third. This, calculated on eight hides, reduces the total of the teamlands in this hundred from ninety-four to seventy-eight, nor has it been possible to total the thirteenth century areas of the townships of this hundred to a sum exceeding the lower figure, although no difficulty was experienced in making the Domesday areas of West Derby, Newton, and Warrington approximate closely to those of the thirteenth century inquests and feodaries.

Salford Hundred.

Salford hundred was much the largest and most valuable of the six hundreds between Ribble and Mersey. But the account of it in Domesday is very brief, and the identification of the then existing estates with the modern townships offers many difficulties. The task will, however, be made easier, and the conclusions arrived at more certain, by keeping in view the various divisions of tenure and manorial jurisdiction, which the records of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries have made familiar to us. These divisions may be stated for our purpose, as follows: (1) The demesne of Manchester and the adjacent hamlets dependent thereon. (2) Estates granted out of the Manchester demesne, such as Withington and its numerous members, Ashton-under-Lyne, Heaton Norris, and others. (3) The demesne of Salford with the dependent townships, and Barton with its various members. (4) The group of four manors, of which Radcliffe first, and afterwards Bolton-le-Moors, was the caput. (5) Estates created into military fees, held under the honour of Lancaster, or incorporated in the barony of Manchester. (6) Estates held in thanage, fee-farm, or by serjeanty. (7) The manor of Tottington, with its members; and (8)

the manor of Rochdale, sometimes called the wapentake of Rochdale.

When the barony of Manchester was created, the demesne of the hundred was divided into two portions, Manchester and its members becoming the demesne of Robert Grelley, while Salford and its members remained in the hands of the Crown, until Henry I. incorporated the honour of Lancaster, and bestowed it about 1114-16 upon his nephew Stephen, count of Mortain, when it became part of the demesne of that honour.

The survey tells us that "King Edward held Salford. There were three hides there, and twelve teamlands, which were waste, and forest three leagues long and as much wide, and many enclosures or hays there, and an eyrie of hawks. King Edward held Radcliffe for a manor. There was one hide there, and another hide belonging to Salford. The church of St. Mary (in Manchester) and the church of St. Michael (in Ashton-under-Lyne) held one teamland in Manchester (that is, in Manchester including its members) quit of all custom, except Danegeld."

We have here a demesne containing an area of five hides and twelve teamlands; but, as already stated, the Domesday assessment to Danegeld of Salford and Blackburn hundreds appears to have been excessive, and the hide was afterwards reduced on some estates from six to four teamlands. Probably the soil and climate in these hilly eastern hundreds had not been fairly taken into consideration when the earlier geld assessment was made. Accordingly, the total extent of the demesne may be stated at thirty-two teamlands, which we propose to allot as follows.

Firstly, one hide to Manchester, one hide to Withington, one hide to Ashton-under-Lyne, and twelve teamlands to

the hamlets belonging to Manchester, viz., five teamlands parcel of the Manchester demesne in Ardwick, Crumpsall, Denton, Gorton, and Openshaw; three and a half teamlands granted out by the lords of Manchester in Heaton Norris; a moiety of Flixton, Little Lever, and Anlezargh; and the remaining three and a half teamlands to other hamlets belonging to Manchester, of which we have found no record of area in the inquests of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries.

Secondly, one hide to Salford, one hide to Radcliffe, Breightmet, Bolton-le-Moors, and Urmston, afterwards held by the Nottinghamshire family of Marsey, and one hide belonging to Salford in Barton with its numerous members. What part of this extensive demesne of 1066 was included in the demesne of 1086, and what part of it had been given by Count Roger to his vassals, it is impossible to say. The survey merely tells us of the latter date: "Now there are in the manor, in demesne, two plough teams, and eight serfs, and two villeins with one plough team. This demesne is worth one hundred shillings." It is obvious that only a part of the old demesne could be here referred to. Doubtless a portion had been set to farm to the villeins for a money rent, and another portion had been granted to the count's vassals.

Continuing, we are told that in 1066, twenty-one berewicks belonged to this manor or hundred, which as many thanes held for as many manors, in which there were eleven and a half hides, and ten and a half teamlands. There were woods there nine and a half leagues long, and five leagues one quarentine broad, that is, one hundred and eight and two-thirds square miles, or sixty-nine thousand, five hundred and forty acres, which no doubt lay in various places. One of these thanes, named Gamel, holding two hides in Rochdale, had his customs

acquitted, except these six, viz., theft, hamfare, forsteal (=ambush or waylaying), breach of the king's peace, breaking an appointment set by the reeve, and continuing a fray after having made oath to desist. The emendation or forfeiture for these offences was forty shillings. The men of this hundred did not work by custom at the building or repair of the king's hall, nor did they reap in August in the king's cornfields. They only made, or repaired, one hay in the king's demesne wood, and they had the forfeiture of bloodshed and rape when these offences were committed in their respective manors. As regards all other customs belonging to the other manors of the district between Ribble and Mersey, they were also subject to them. Thus they possessed greater freedom and immunities, natural to a country where the soil was less fertile, the climate more rigorous, and communication difficult, owing to the rugged and inaccessible character of the country. We are further told that some of these lands were quit of all custom except Danegeld, and some were even quit of Danegeld. The whole manor of Salford with the hundred rendered £37. 4s. This is equivalent to a ferm of 5s. 4d., *i.e.*, two ores of pennies for each teamland, and £4. 16s. for ferm of demesne lands put to farm at a higher rate, and the pannage of swine in the forests.

To attempt to identify these estates with the manors and townships of later centuries is beyond the scope of this paper. It will suffice to say that the eleven and a half hides and ten and a half teamlands—representing a total reduced area of fifty-six and a half teamlands—comprised the following estates, some of which retained their thanage tenure as late as the thirteenth century, and others, by the commendation of the tenants or by forfeiture fell into the hands of the chief lord, and were

"King Edwa
and xii. carucat
[Salford cu
Manchester
Withington
"King Edwa
i. hide there, a
church of St. M
MAMECESTRE C

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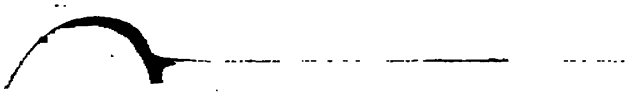

regrouped to form military fees. About twenty-six teamlands held by knight's service either of the barony of Manchester, or directly of the honour of Lancaster. About twenty teamlands held in thanage or by fee-farm, among which were such estates as Worsley and Hulton, Edgeworth and Heaton, Royton, Chorlton, Kaskenmoor, &c. Twelve teamlands, comprising the manor of Tottington, with its members, viz., Bury, Middleton, Chadderton, and Alkrington; and, lastly, the manor or lordship of Rochdale, originally assessed at two hides, but most explicitly surveyed in 1212 as eight teamlands, thus strongly confirming the theory of the reduction of the Domesday hide, in this and Blackburn hundred, from six to four teamlands.

In 1086 the following knights held lands, parcel of this manor or hundred, by the gift of Count Roger of Poictou, viz., Nigel three hides and half a teamland, the greater part of which was in Manchester and the dependent townships. He has been identified as Nigel, first baron of Halton, but that is impossible, because that individual died some years before the date of Domesday, and we found his son, William fitz-Nigel, holding fees in West Derby and Warrington. Perhaps he was Nigel de Stafford, ancestor of the baronial house of Stafford, and Domesday tenant of several other estates, afterwards incorporated in the honour of Lancaster. One of these estates, Thorp Constantine in Staffordshire, Nigel forfeited when Count Roger was temporarily deprived of his Lancashire estates, probably during the disturbances of 1084. Another estate, Drakelow in Derbyshire, was taken from him and restored only as a petty serjeanty. Whether this surmise be correct or not, he did not long retain this fee, but lost it before the creation of the barony of Manchester. Of the other knights under

Count Roger, Warin held two teamlands, another Warin one and a half, Geoffrey one, and Gamel—who has with apparent reason been identified as the thane of that name who held Rochdale—had two teamlands. Apparently the whole twenty-five teamlands were set to ferm, as the knights had no ploughs on the demesne, but there were three thanes, thirty villeins, nine bordars, a priest, and ten serfs tilling the land, with twenty-two plough teams between them. The ferm was worth £7. As there is mention of a priest, there was, therefore, a church included in one of these military fees, and this seems to support the theory that Nigel's three hides and half teamland composed the demesne of Manchester, Withington, and the dependent vills. The odd half teamland belonged to the church of St. Mary in Manchester, and was the moiety of the teamland mentioned in the survey of 1066, as then belonging to the churches of Manchester and Ashton-under-Lyne.

Taking the number of plough teams and the population upon these twenty-five teamlands, as applicable proportionately to the one hundred and twenty-one and a half teamlands of the whole hundred, we obtain a total of one hundred and seven plough teams, and a population of two hundred and fifty-eight persons connected with the cultivation of the land, or a total estimated population of one thousand eight hundred and six souls. These figures, however, seem too low, and if we employ the basis of calculation which the survey gives in the hundred of West Derby, we obtain the more probable figures of four hundred and fifty-four, and three thousand one hundred and seventy-eight respectively. Of the total estimated area of the hundred, viz., two hundred and twenty-five thousand, nine hundred and sixty-five statute acres, there were fourteen thousand, five hundred and

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eighty acres under the plough, eighty-two thousand, five hundred acres of forest and woodland, leaving one hundred and twenty-eight thousand, eight hundred and eighty-five acres of pasture and waste. The twenty and a quarter square miles of forest, which belonged to the demesne of Salford, probably lay in Barton, Worsley, and Ashton. The greater part of the one hundred and eight and two-thirds square miles, which belong to the twenty-one manors of the thanes, probably lay in Rochdale, Tottington, Kaskenmoor (*i.e.*, Oldham and Crompton), and around Horwich.

LEYLAND HUNDRED.

Of Leyland, the last hundred in the district, the account is as follows: "King Edward held Leyland. There was one hide there and two teamlands. Wood two leagues long and one wide and an eyrie of hawks. To this manor then belonged twelve berewicks which twelve freemen held for as many manors. In these were six hides and eight teamlands. There was wood there six leagues long, and three leagues and one quarentine wide. The whole manor of Leyland with the hundred rendered a ferm to the king of £19. 18s. 2d."

The capital manor of Leyland probably embraced the modern townships of Longton, Leyland, Euxton, and Farrington, whose area extended to eight teamlands. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries these townships, with Penwortham, composed the demesne estate of the Bussels, barons of Penwortham. The wood belonging to this demesne amounted to two thousand, eight hundred and eighty acres, probably extending into the adjoining townships of Clayton-le-Woods and Whittle-le-Woods, which do not appear to have existed as vills assessed to

Danegeld at the time of Domesday. This demesne was given to the count's vassals before 1086.

The twelve berewicks of the twelve freemen contained forty-four teamlands, and embraced the remainder of the hundred, except the district which now includes the townships of Hoghton, Wheelton, and Withnell, formerly called Gunolvesmoors, which does not appear to have contained any vills assessed to Danegeld at the time of the survey, but was probably covered with wood, of which there was twenty-five thousand, nine hundred and twenty statute acres, an extent representing about one-third of the modern area of Leylandshire. The whole hundred rendered a ferm of £19. 18s. 2d., representing 5s. 4d., the usual two ores of pennies, for each teamland, and £6. os. 10d. for pannage of swine in the woods, and any additional rent derived from the farmers of the demesne. The twelve freemen were in the enjoyment of the same privileges as the men of Salford hundred.

Before 1086, Count Roger had enfeoffed certain knights, who then held seventeen teamlands, upon which there were four riding-men, a priest, fourteen villeins, six bordars, and two neatherds, having between them eight plough-teams. Upon these estates there were eight thousand, six hundred and forty acres of wood, including the two thousand, eight hundred and eighty acres which in 1066 belonged to the eight teamlands of demesne, and four eyries of hawks. The whole was worth fifty shillings. Some part of it was waste. It seems very probable that the plough teams and population here named, belonged to the eight teamlands of demesne, the other nine teamlands held by the count's vassals being in the hands of freemen. Count Roger's infeudations always included more or less land held by freeholding thanes or drenghs, whether he included part of his demesne or not. From the former

class the military tenants obtained Doomsmen for their baronial courts of pleas, which, springing rapidly into existence after the Conquest, were held every three weeks at the chief manor-house of the fee.

Employing the same calculation which has been used to estimate the population of West Derby hundred, we arrive at a total of forty-seven plough-teams and six oxen, the number of persons engaged in the cultivation of the soil being one hundred and ninety, and the total population one thousand three hundred and thirty souls. The estimated area of the hundred, not including Penwortham and Howick, is eighty thousand, six hundred and forty-eight acres. Of this, six thousand, four hundred and eighty acres were under the plough, and twenty-eight thousand, eight hundred acres of wood, leaving forty-five thousand, three hundred and sixty-eight acres of pasture and waste.

The account of Penwortham is curious: "King Edward held Penwortham. There are two teamlands there, and they rendered tenpence. Now there is a castle there, and two plough-teams are in demesne, and six burgesses, three riding-men, eight villeins, and four neatherds. Between them all they have four plough-teams. There is the moiety of a fishery there. Wood and eyries of hawks as in the time of King Edward. It is worth £3." From this account it appears that Penwortham was not only assessed to Danegeld at a low rate, but it only paid tenpence for ferm to the king. There were, doubtless, other services to be performed, of which we are not told, such as wallwork and munitioning the castle—supposing there was one there in 1066, as there was in 1086—also in connection with the ferry over the Ribble. The fishery was only a moiety, because the northern half of the Ribble belonged to Preston-in-Amounderness. There

were twenty-one persons connected with the town and its two teamlands, and six plough-teams at work. Our former basis of calculation would give a total population of about one hundred and fifty souls.

The summary given at the end of the survey of the land between Ribble and Mersey tells us that in the six hundreds there were one hundred and eighty-eight manors in which were eighty geldable hides less one, that is, four hundred and seventy-four teamlands. These totals are quite correct. In the time of King Edward it was worth £145. 2s. 2d. When Count Roger, the Poictevin, received it from the king, it was worth £120, no great diminution of value when it is remembered that the conquest of the kingdom had been in progress during that period. It hardly bears out the suggestion that this district had been laid waste. As a matter of fact, as compared with Cheshire, and many parts of Yorkshire, or with Amounderness lying immediately to the north, this district passed through the period of conquest almost unscathed, and with fewer changes of actual ownership than would generally be supposed. Very many of the descendants of the Saxon and Danish thanes living at the Conquest possessed their ancestral estates for generations after the Conquest, and if others fell to the position of villeins, they really underwent no great change of status. Was it not the fortunate escape of this district from the fire and sword of the Conqueror, laying waste the neighbouring shires, which gave birth to the ancient prophetic stanza:—

> When all England is alofte
> Hale are they that are in Christis Crofte;
> And where should Christis Crofte be
> But between Ribble and Mersey.

d Lailand, there are one hundred
In the time of King Edward it was

	Acres of Land.	Acres of Wood.	Acres of pasture and waste.	Agricultural Population.	Total Population.
W	14,085	10,380	112,869	439	3,073
	—	—	—	—	—
Ne	3,600	88,800	(?)	112	784
W	6,840	—	63,710	213	1,491
Bl	11,280	36,000	103,860	352	2,464
Sa	14,580	82,500	128,885	454	3,178
Le	6,480	28,800	45,368	190	1,330
[P	240	—	(?)	21	147
	56,865	246,480	454,692	1,781	12,467
			46,356‖		
			408,336		

ise they contained much low-lying

anors. In the other hundreds the

of the whole hundred by this area,
ing hundreds.

THE ANCIENT CROSSES OF LANCASHIRE.

BY HENRY TAYLOR.

INTRODUCTION.

AMONGST the mass of neglected materials which at some future time should be utilised in writing a complete history of England are the maps of the Ordnance Survey. To the generality of students they may indeed, without exaggeration, be called an unread book. The most casual observer, however, cannot but be struck with the vast amount of information which they contain, and anyone who will take the pains to study them carefully will find much, not merely of great scientific interest, but a good deal even of a poetical and romantic character.

In accidentally looking over the one-inch ordnance maps of West Lancashire some little time since, for another purpose, I noticed the frequent recurrence of the word "cross," in ancient Gothic letters, and I have since undertaken the task of systematically examining the one hundred and eighteen six-inch ordnance maps of the 1848 Survey, which represent the county to that scale, taking note of

the records which they contain of ancient crosses, and incidentally of much else that is of interest to the antiquary. These maps record the sites and remains, and in some cases the actual existing examples of the numerous wayside, boundary, market, and other crosses which were scattered broadcast over the length and breadth of the county in amazing numbers. We find them more particularly in the Ribble valley, and in that refuge for recusants, that old-world district which, prior to the Norman Conquest, was known as "Betwax Ribbel and Moerse," and which is represented in the main by the hundreds of Leyland and West Derby. Here I have notes of not less than one hundred and fifty crosses, which at one time were objects of pious interest, but the majority have unfortunately in the course of time perished through vandalism and neglect.

In certain districts, however, where the landowners have been for generations adherents of the old Roman Catholic faith, many examples are still preserved.

This disposition of the ancient crosses, thickly grouped in certain parts of the county, and the reverse in others, may be due to various causes. The "Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey," published by the Chetham Society (vols. xxxviii., xxxix., xl.), throws some light upon this subject, frequent references being made to the stone crosses which were put up by the monks, to mark the boundaries of their lands, in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Probably some of the numerous crosses, which are to be found near the abbeys of Whalley, Penwortham, and Burscough, may have had a similar origin. This was certainly the case near Standish, Wrightington, and elsewhere in the hundred of Leyland, where the pedestals of the ancient crosses so planted six hundred years ago are still to be seen.

In some counties villages were subject to the abbeys; and religious services were performed there by emissaries from the abbey church at preaching crosses, which had been erected for this purpose. Possibly in Lancashire some of the many crosses of which we find records were put up for a like object.

It is noticeable that within a circle drawn with a ten-miles radius from Penwortham Priory—a building which dominated the town of Preston—no less than seventy-seven ancient crosses are shown on our maps. Preston has always been a great ecclesiastical centre.*

Again, where the population was large and thriving, as the Domesday Survey shows it to have been on the western half of Lancashire, and where the Christian religion had taken firm root, we may naturally expect to find a greater abundance of crosses than on the bleak eastern moorlands, which are known to have had for long only a small number of inhabitants. Whether the vast towns and villages which have here sprung up during the last century have swept away monuments of this kind—if they ever existed—in a wholesale manner cannot now be determined with accuracy, as the Ordnance Survey is of such recent date.†

* The population of Preston is about one hundred thousand, and thirty thousand of these are Roman Catholics.

† The editor of "The Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey" writes: "The register speaks eloquently of the sentimental piety of the Lancashire people of the thirteenth century; but an examination of all the registers of religious houses in the county leads to the conclusion that the feeling which induced so many people dwelling in West Lancashire to have regard to the 'health of their own souls and the souls of their ancestors and successors' was comparatively absent among the inhabitants of the eastern half of the county. Evidence of the attachment of the people of the west to the religious houses of Lancaster, Cockersand, Lytham, Penwortham, and Burscough still exists in the large number of adherents to the Church of Rome still to be found there, proving that this attachment of the people to the faith of their forefathers is due rather to principles of conservatism than to local influences."

A map of the fifteen religious houses, which were established in Lancashire soon after the Norman Conquest, shows that most of them were built on the western side of the county.

The ancient crosses of Lancashire may be classified as follows: (1) preaching crosses; (2) churchyard crosses; (3) roadside or weeping crosses; (4) market crosses; (5) boundary crosses and meare stones; (6) the cross at cross roads; (7) crosses at holy wells; (8) sanctuary crosses; (9) crosses as guide posts, memorial, and murder crosses.

The Pre-Norman Crosses of Lancashire.

Although so few pre-Norman crosses are to be found in Lancashire, the subject is one of extreme interest, and it would be well if drawings on a large scale of those still existing could be made, for the purpose of comparison with the numerous examples to be found in other parts of the British Isles.

At present little more can with certainty be stated about them than that none of the ornamented sculptured stones can be proved to be older than the ninth century. This is the latest opinion of qualified experts who have given prolonged attention to the subject. The known examples are as follows:—

In the hundred of Lonsdale: Churchyard crosses at Heysham, Halton, and Lancaster. In the tower of Halton Church fragments of other crosses are preserved.

In the hundred of Blackburn there are the three well-known crosses in Whalley churchyard. Mr. Myres, of Preston, tells us that the heads of two more have now been discovered. The Godley Lane cross, Burnley, is considered to belong to this group.

The hundred of West Derby: A cross of this date is to be found in Winwick churchyard, and a portion of a cross has recently been found at Walton-on-the-Hill.

The hundred of Salford: The shaft of a Saxon cross, dug up in forming the Ship Canal, near Eccles, is in the Owens College Museum.

A portion of a cross was found at Bolton-le-Moors during the rebuilding of the parish church.

Many are the traditions of early Celtic missions in West Lancashire. Thus, as the church at Heysham is dedicated to S. Patrick, it has been assumed that the cross in the churchyard may have been planted there by him as a preaching cross. The same speculations have been rife as to the cross dug up from the Manchester Ship Canal, not far from Patricroft or Patrick's Cross. There was a S. Patrick's cross also in Byrom Street, Liverpool.

The famous Whalley crosses are ascribed by Dr. Whitaker to the seventh century, and he quotes Bede in support of his hypothesis, that these crosses may have been put up to commemorate the preaching of Paulinus.

But those who wish to follow up the subject may with advantage study Mr. J. Romilly Allen's scholarly work, *Early Christian Symbolism in Great Britain and Ireland before the Thirteenth Century*, as well as a contribution by him on the "Early Christian Monuments of Lancashire and Cheshire," printed in the *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire* for 1893. Another valuable essay is that by the Right Rev. G. F. Browne (bishop of Bristol) on "The Pre-Norman Sculptured Stones in Lancashire," printed in the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society* for the year 1887. Both papers have illustrations of most of these early crosses.

Preaching Crosses.

Many of the ancient parishes of Lancashire were of large extent, and churches in early times were few and far between, consequently we may infer that, as in Scotland and Cornwall, the inhabitants at that period in our history met at some of the wayside crosses for purposes of divine worship.

As civilisation progressed and landowners grew comparatively wealthy, they began in the thirteenth century to obtain licences for domestic chapels, which in Lancashire were numerous. These chapels would take the place of the earlier open-air assemblies.

In some cases the market cross was utilised by the preacher, indeed, so late as the year 1747, John Wesley in his *Journal* gives a graphic account of a sermon delivered at the Salford Cross, Greengate, to a great crowd of people; and he appears also to have preached at the Manchester Market Cross. In 1748 he addressed a tumultuous assembly at the market cross, Bolton-le-Moors, the scene of the sad tragedy recorded in one of my illustrations, the beheading of the seventh Earl of Derby.

It was the custom in certain parts of England, where the market town was under the domination of monastic establishments, for a monk or friar to preach to the people at the cross on market days. This may also have been the case in Lancashire.

In Ireland "mass" is now said at "stations," in remote parts of parishes, where there is no chapel.

Churchyard Crosses.

The origin of the churchyard cross is involved in some mystery. Probably a pre-Norman preaching cross may have been erected in some village or other suitable place, and the church built subsequently adjoining it, leaving the cross intact.

Crosses and monuments in churchyards are apt to be undermined by graves, and so to fall down prematurely. The pre-Norman dilapidated cross would naturally be renewed in the medieval period in the style of architecture then prevalent.

The churchyard cross is almost invariably to be found on the south side of the church, and square with the points of the compass, the cross facing east and west.

In Young's *History of Whitby* (published in 1817) is an interesting chapter on "The Ancient Crosses of the District." On churchyard crosses the writer says: "They were used for the purposes of superstition; processions were made to them on Palm Sundays, and devotees creeped towards them and kissed them on Good Fridays; so that a cross was considered as a necessary appendage to every cemetery."

Roadside or Weeping Crosses.

Many of these wayside crosses were doubtless erected in England, as we find them on the continent of Europe, purely for devotional purposes. In a work, *Dives et Pauper*, printed at Westminster in 1496, the purpose of the roadside cross of the period is thus defined: "For this reason ben ye crosses by ye way, that when folk passynge see the crosses, they sholde thynke on Hym that deyed on the crosse, and worshyppe Hym above all things."

In old times, when bearers had to carry the body over bad roads, and often for a considerable distance, frequent resting places were a necessity; and here a prayer for the soul of the departed was offered up, or the *de profundis* would be said. It is, consequently, no matter of surprise to us to find that many of the old churches of Lancashire were surrounded by a group of crosses, arranged in radiating lines along the converging roads, and at suitable distances for rest. Aughton is an interesting example. The custom of so stopping at the pedestals of the ancient crosses was universal until within quite a recent period amongst the Roman Catholics in West Lancashire, but died out when hearses came into general use.

Another remarkable instance is to be found in the neighbourhood of Ormskirk and Burscough Priory, where two long ranges of crosses at one time led up to the respective churches from the Scarisbrick district the former from the southerly and the latter from the northerly side of the park.

It has been suggested that one or both of these series were erected in connection with the medieval Passion-tide service of the "Way to the Cross." This may have been the case, but more probably they were merely used as convenient resting places for funeral processions. Further investigations may prove that some of these crosses were boundary crosses; but in the recently published deeds relating to Burscough Priory, and the Scarisbrick and other neighbouring estates, constant reference is made to the definition of disputed boundaries by the placing there of large stones, not crosses. In some cases the cross itself remains; but, generally, we find merely the ancient base stone, socketted for the missing shaft of wood or stone, and called here, as elsewhere, by the rustic Roman Catholics "holy water stones" from the custom,

still practised by the more devout members of that community, of dipping their hands, before crossing themselves, into the water which is nearly always there.

The Eleanor crosses: We must not forget that King Edward I. built a series of magnificent wayside crosses at the spots where the body of his queen rested, in the year 1290, in the grand funeral procession through the midland counties to Westminster Abbey.

The funeral of S. Edmund: And again in earlier times even churches were built at the spots where the body of S. Edmund (king and martyr) rested, in the year 1010, when carried back from London to Bury St. Edmunds. The well-known Greenstead Church, in Essex, is one of these memorial edifices.

Irish funeral processions: In a remote district in Ireland a curious ancient custom was recently witnessed. Wherever the funeral procession stopped little wooden crosses were fixed in the ground where the body rested. These were prepared before the ceremony, and were carried with the procession for this purpose.

In Portugal, when a person is apparently at the point of death, he is carried off to the shrine of some important saint for the benefit of his soul. If he dies on the way and is rich, a cross of some importance is put up at that spot with his name and suitable inscription. If the person is poor, a cross is cut on the wall.

Market Crosses.

The origin of the market cross dates from remote antiquity.

Mr. Gomme, in his *Primitive Folk-Moots*, shows that the open-air assemblies (moots) were held at certain

places marked by a cross, and gives several interesting examples. He goes on to suggest that the town crosses to be met with all over England may be identified with ancient meeting places of the local assemblies. "As a matter of history, the origin of the town cross is lost in the obscurity caused by its Christian significance. But that Paul's Cross, London, was a place of assembly there is not a shadow of doubt." Again, Gomme refers to the practice of the chieftain in the Highlands of Scotland, when summoning his clansmen: "He slew a goat, and, making a cross of any light wood, seared its extremities in the fire, and extinguished them in the blood of the animal. This was called 'the fiery cross.'

"In the Isle of Man the captain of each parish, who may be considered a subordinate sheriff, is conservator of the peace, and to his custody is committed a cross, an instrument of the size of a man, which, in cases of emergency requiring public aid, is conveyed by him to a neighbour, who carries it forward to another; and thus it proceeds from house to house till it has performed the entire circuit of the parish."

Baines, in his *Directory and Gazetteer of Lancashire* (published in 1824), gives a graphic picture of the old-world condition of the county palatine before the days of railways; indeed, in reading over the names of the numerous old coaching inns in such towns as Preston one is forcibly reminded of the excursions of Mr. Pickwick and his friends, and their ramblings in old country towns. But England was at that time beginning to recover from the effects of its struggle with Napoleon, and, owing to the steam-engine, in Lancashire large manufacturing towns were replacing small country villages. When trade and commerce thus rapidly developed, the ancient market place was felt to be inconveniently small, and in many

cases the stocks, pillories, and market crosses disappeared for ever as useless obstructions to traffic. The town of Colne may be cited as an instance where, a complaint having been made that there was insufficient room for the coaches to turn, and that the idlers of the market place congregating on the steps of the cross were a nuisance, the cross was removed in the year 1822. Several historic market crosses have, however, like those at Preston and Lancaster, been destroyed through mere vandalism.

Charters were at various times granted to at least thirty Lancashire towns authorising the holding of markets; but much careful research would be necessary for the preparation of an authentic list of those which were also graced with crosses. We know, however, that in the hundred of Salford one or more market crosses stood in the borough which gives its name to the hundred; two, at least, were erected in Manchester, and one in the towns of Ashton-under-Lyne, Rochdale, Bolton-le-Moors, and Eccles respectively.

In the hundred of West Derby we find records of at least five ancient crosses in the town of Liverpool,* and one in the towns or villages of Great Crosby, Crossens, Wigan, Ormskirk, and Formby respectively. Probably, in the smaller towns and villages, the various crosses, which are there shown on our maps, may have

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*The crosses in some other English towns were numerous; thus at Banbury, in Oxfordshire, there were the Market Cross, the High Cross, the White Cross, the Bread Cross, and the Weeping Cross.

Again, in Loftie's *History of London* a map is given, dated 1604, in which, in a straight line from west to east within the old city walls, from Newgate to Aldgate, a range of no less than six crosses is shown within a length of one mile. These, with the historic S. Paul's Cross and all others in London, were destroyed by a Cromwellian parliamentary order about the year 1645.

been erected or used for market crosses, or may, indeed, have served several purposes. The cross on the village green at Newburgh may be taken as an instance.

The hundred of Blackburn affords us a few recorded examples. Here the market crosses at Blackburn, Padiham, Burnley, and Colne were of ancient date.

In the hundred of Leyland (the smallest in Lancashire) market crosses existed in the villages of Leyland, Croston, Rufford, Standish, and at Chorley.

In Amounderness, the ancient cross in the market place at Preston was more than once rebuilt. That at Garstang has recently been restored by Mr. Myres, architect, of Preston. At Poulton-le-Fylde the cross still stands in the market place, with fish stones, rogues' whipping post, and stocks. Kirkham also had a cross. In the old-world village of Garstang-Churchtown, the disused market cross is still to be seen.

In the hundred of Lonsdale two ancient crosses appear on old maps of the town of Lancaster, the Covel Cross standing in an open space about one hundred and fifty yards east of the castle and the parish church, and the White Cross similarly situated on the south-east outskirts of the town, on the Preston road.

The circumstances under which it became necessary or desirable to erect a cross must in many cases remain a matter of speculation. In some cases, where the town was under the domination of ecclesiastical authority, the church officials put up and paid for the cross; but in others this work was sometimes done by the lord of the manor. Thus in the year A.D. 1101 a cross was erected in Blackburn market place by John de Laci; and in A.D. 1533, when apparently it had become dilapidated, it was rebuilt by Abbot Paslew, of Whalley.

The uses of the market cross were various. Bargains ratified near it were regarded as sacred.*

Proclamations were read at its base. In August, 1651, Charles II., on his march southwards, was heralded as king of England at Lancaster Market Cross.

In 1714, when disturbances were anticipated and which culminated in the 1715 rising, the order for putting the penal laws in force against all recusants was read on Whitsun Eve at the Preston Market Cross.

In the market place at Lancaster in 1715, his followers ranging round the cross, the Pretender, with all due ceremony, was proclaimed king as James III.

The proclamations of the Manorial Court of Great Crosby were made at the foot of the cross in that village.

In medieval times and, indeed, until the end of the reign of George III., punishments were of an incredibly vindictive character, and were performed as far as possible in public, as a warning and to the terror of the beholders. Thus, at Colne, in the year 1612, Margaret Pearson, of Padiham, was tried on the charge of bewitching a horse; and a portion of her punishment consisted in standing in the Colne pillory on a market day, with a paper on her head stating in large letters her offence. The pillory stood near the ancient market cross, a view of which is given in vol. v. of the Binns Collection in the Liverpool Free Library, and engraved in Carr's *Annals of Colne.*

At the commencement of the present century it was not unusual for the magistrates to order a prisoner to be

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* In the market place at Middleham, Yorkshire, is to be seen a curious stone erection, which may have taken the place of the usual market cross. It consists of a platform, on which are two pillars: one carries the effigy of some animal in a kneeling posture, resembling a sheep or a cow; the other supports an octagonal object which tradition says represents a cheese. The farmers walked up the opposing flights of steps when concluding a bargain, and shook hands over the sculptures.

whipped at the Colne cross after undergoing his term of imprisonment at Preston. He was tiéd to a cartwheel, and the punishment was then inflicted. The last time this strange sight was seen was in 1822.

In the south of England the desirability of shelter from rain and snow seems to have been felt at an early period, and the market cross not infrequently, as at Chichester and Winchester, had a circular or polygonal lean-to roof attached to it—serving the same purpose as the large, picturesque umbrellas which may still be seen in old French towns on market days. Specimens of many such south-country market crosses are given in Rimmer's *Crosses of England.* The hardier Lancastrians, however, do not seem to have minded the unkind elements, and I am not aware of a single instance of a cross with a roof to it in the county. The Enclosures Act is responsible for much vandalism in Lancashire, for before its passing many an ancient village had its green or place of open-air assembly, in the midst of which stood the cross, as at Ince Blundell, Sollom, and Great Crosby.

Boundary Crosses and Meare Stones.

In the vicinity of abbey lands much difficulty necessarily arises in the attempt to distinguish between wayside crosses and those which were put up by ecclesiastics to prove the sacredness of their possessions. Whitaker, in his *History of Whalley*, in describing the boundaries of the Forest of Bowland, mentions the meare stones, and also "Ravencross" and "Cross of Greate."

The northern and eastern boundaries of the county are shown on old maps to have been defined by several "County Stones." The "Cross of Greate" is shown on

Speed's map (1598) and on Blaeu's map (1662) as a cross standing on a hillock. Its ruins have recently been identified by Mr. Harold Brodrick on the boundary lines of the counties of York and Lancaster, distant about twelve miles south of Kirkby Lonsdale, and fourteen miles east of the town of Lancaster.

Some of the other "County Stones" may also have been originally built as completed crosses, in the course of years becoming (like many so described in the ordnance maps) "Stump Crosses," or they may indeed never have been more than rough meare or boundary pillars.

Speed shows a "County Stone" on the Yorkshire boundary, a little to the west of Kirkby Lonsdale. He shows it as a squared stone pillar, like the stem of a cross, and placed on the top of a hillock.

Greenwood's map of Lancashire (1818) shows a monument, called "County Stones," on the extreme northern boundary of the county, about six miles west of Ambleside, and another about five miles south-east from Hornby Castle.

"Cat Stones" appears to indicate another boundary monument, about one mile west of the Cross of Greate. "Black's Cross" is shown on this map, situate about two miles north-west from Colne, on the county border.

Other county boundary stones near Colne are "Wool Stones," about five miles east of that town; "Standing Stone" on the road to Halifax, and two stones, each bearing the name of "Tom Cross," about a mile apart, distant two and a half miles north-east from Colne.

Widdop Cross, five miles east of Burnley, is also a boundary cross. "Alder Stone," on the county boundary, is six miles north-east of Rochdale.

The seven holy crosses of Oldham, which were described so far back as the year 1620, by a Mr. John

Newton, enclosed ecclesiastical land belonging to the dissolved hospital of S. John of Jerusalem; the lands are so described in deeds of the time of Queen Elizabeth.

The Cross at Cross Roads.

A cross was frequently placed where roads met. This position would naturally be chosen as a convenient one for purposes of rest for funeral processions.

A cross may have been placed in certain cases in this position by the friends of suicides or criminals, who, according to an extraordinary custom, were so buried, even in comparatively recent times. In Procter's *Memorials of Manchester Streets* we find a quotation from a newspaper published in the year 1753, in which it is stated that in April of that year an ostler at the "Swan and Saracen's Head," Market Stead Lane, was found hanging in the stable. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of "self murder;" and the body was ordered to be "drawn upon a sledge and buried at four lane-ends, with all his clothes on, and to have a stake driven through his body; which was executed on Tuesday forenoon, in the presence of a numerous concourse of spectators."

Mr. Procter also records that in April, 1846, at New Cross, Manchester, two coffins were dug up: the bodies were those of suicides, which at some unknown period had been buried there.

Crosses at Holy Wells.

Long before the healing mysteries of the Pool of Bethesda were made known to the Christian community, curative properties were attributed to wells in almost

every quarter of the globe; and in our own islands these wells abound, the term "holy" becoming associated with them during the medieval period.

To take one prominent example. No story could be more charming and imaginative than that associated with the discovery of the Holy Well at Fernyhalgh, three miles to the north of Preston, against which was placed a cross, and a chapel subsequently built in its immediate precincts. The well is dedicated—as is so usual—to a female saint (S. Mary), and is known as "Our Lady's Well." The story is briefly as follows: "A merchant, in great peril on the Irish Sea, vowed that if his life was spared he would acknowledge the favour of his preservation by some pious work. The storm ceasing, he landed on the coast of Lancashire, and was admonished by a miraculous voice to seek Fernyhalgh, and there, near a well, erect a chapel. He wandered about in search of such a place until at last he came to Preston, where the maid who attended to his wants at the inn excused herself for serving breakfast late, having, she said, followed a strayed cow to Fernyhalgh. Thus the traveller gained the desired information and sought the spot, where he found, in addition to the spring foretold him, the figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which gave rise to the name "Our Lady's Well and Chapel."

Some of the holy wells in Lancashire are dedicated to men, as S. Oswald's Well, near Winwick; S. Thomas's Well, near Windleshaw Abbey; S. Patrick's Well, two miles north of Lancaster; S. John's Well, near Ribchester, and Monk's Well, Wavertree.

Many are dedicated to female saints: thus we have S. Mary's and S. Anne's Wells, Penwortham; S. Katherine's Well, three miles west of Preston, on the north bank of the Ribble; S. Ann's Well, one and a half miles north of

Goosnargh; another S. Anne's Well is near Rainhill, and we have S. Mary's Well at Fernyhalgh. Gregson mentions the Maudlin Well (probably a corruption of Magdalen) just outside Lathom Park.

S. Helen (or S. Ellen) was a favourite saint with well-worshippers. S. Ellen's Well, Brindle, adjoining a chapel, was thus described by Dr. Kuerden: "The fountain is called S. Ellen's Well, to which place the vulgar neighbouring people of the Red Letter do much resort, with pretended devotion, on each year upon S. Ellen's Day, where and when, out of a foolish ceremony, they offer or throw into the well pins which there being left may be seen a long time after by any visitor of that fountain." A similar custom is observed at S. Helen's Well, near Sefton Church. The practice is alleged to belong to Roman or pre-Christian times—in fact, going back to remote antiquity.

Instances are to be found in almost every parish in Ireland, associated with romantic and curious superstitions, and so it is with the principality of Wales.

The holy wells of Scotland have been ably treated by Anderson in his *Scotland in Early Christian Times.*

The practices at the Lancashire wells, described above, are quoted by Charles Hardwick in his *Traditions, Superstitions, and Folk-Lore,* and by Mr. G. L. Gomme in his book, *Ethnology in Folk-Lore,* much of which is devoted to the subject of holy wells in Ireland, Scotland, and elsewhere.

The Ancient and Holy Wells of Cornwall, by M. and L. Quiller-Couch, is also a book full of interest.*

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* Some of the customs observed in connection with S. Madern's Well are thus described in this book: "At the present time people go to the well in crowds on the first Sunday in May, when the Wesleyans hold a service there, and a sermon is preached; after which the people throw in

Cornwall has been dealt with by Mr. Arthur Langdon, in his book, *Old Cornish Crosses*, and Somersetshire and Gloucestershire by Mr. Pooley. In these books pictures of wells and crosses in conjunction are given.

Poetry and antiquarianism in this subject are indissolubly connected; at any rate, so thought the great Scottish antiquary, Sir Walter Scott, when he wrote in *Marmion* the well-known lines on crosses and holy wells:—

> Where shall she turn!—behold her mark
> A little fountain-cell,
> Where water, clear as diamond-spark,
> In a stone bason fell.
> Above, some half-worn letters say,
> "Drink . weary . pilgrim . drink . and . pray
> For . the . kind . soul . of . Sybil . Grey
> Who . built . this . cross . and . well."

The cross and well, so beautifully described, are presumably not far from Flodden Field, where so many Lancashire archers shed their blood.

Robin Hood: Mystery and romance will probably always be connected with the name of Robin Hood. Although much time has been spent by certain antiquaries in the endeavour to prove that a person of that name, who robbed the rich to help the poor, was born in the

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two pins or pebbles to consult the spirit or try for sweethearts. If the two articles sink together, they will soon be married."

Mr. Hardwick quotes a manuscript, dated 1777, describing another custom in connection with this well: "In Madron Well—and I have no doubt in many others—may be found frequently the pins which have been dropped by maidens desirous of knowing when they were to be married. I once witnessed the whole ceremony performed by a group of beautiful girls, who had walked on a May morning from Penzance. Two pieces of straw, about an inch long each, were crossed, and the pin run through them. This cross was then dropped into the water, and the rising bubbles carefully counted, as they marked the number of years which would pass ere the arrival of the happy day."

thirteenth century, somewhere on the hills dividing the county of York from that of Lancaster, and by others to show that the legend of Robin Hood is a world-wide myth of quite prehistoric times, yet no definite conclusion has so far been arrived at. Certain it is, however, that his name appears with much frequency on the ordnance maps of Lancashire, generally connected with wells, and sometimes with a well and cross in juxtaposition, as at the meeting of four roads near Sydbrook Lane, one and a half miles south-east from the ancient town of Croston. Again, we find Robin Hood's house and well four miles south-east of Colne.

The East Lancashire legends in connection with "Robin Hood" wells and crosses have been chronicled in Tattersall's *Memories of Hurstwood*, and the great Robin Hood subject has been thoroughly dealt with in Ritson's *Robin Hood* and in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Sanctuary Crosses.

Hyde's Cross, Manchester, is said to have been utilised as a sanctuary cross, by the vagabonds and criminals who were protected from the clutches of the law, when Manchester was a city of refuge.

Lancaster was another "Seat of Peace" or "Place of Sanctuary" to such malefactors as were not guilty of any notorious crimes. Possibly the "White Cross* in that

* Many crosses not merely in Lancashire, but in other parts of England, bear the names of "White Cross" and "Red Cross." In Salford there is a White Cross Bank. In Manchester Red Cross Street is shown on the 1788 map of that city. In London White Cross Street and Red Cross Street occur in the same immediate neighbourhood. The crosses may be so named, either from the colour of the stone or possibly from an heraldic device, or in connection with the monastic orders.

town may have been the one to which criminals fled for safety.

Churchyards as sanctuaries: In an Act passed in the reign of James I., dealing with witchcraft, the following words occur: "And shall lose the privilege and benefit of clergy and sanctuary."

Blackstone (vol. ix., p. 332) thus defines the benefit of sanctuary: "If a person accused of any crime, except treason and sacrilege, had fled to any church or churchyard, and, within forty days after, went in sackcloth and confessed himself guilty before the coroner . . . he by this means saved his life, if he observed the conditions of the oath, by going with a cross in his hand and with all convenient speed to the port assigned and embarking." In such cases, probably, the churchyard cross would be the place of refuge.

Mr. Rimmer tells us that "near Delamere Forest, in the middle of Cheshire, are several ancient crosses that tradition asserts were for the convenience of travellers passing through the dense woods, where even robbers respected them, provided the former could reach the cross first." The crosses on the moors of East Lancashire may have had a similar use.

Crosses as Guide Posts, Memorial and Murder Crosses.

In casting our eyes on the map of Lancashire in quest of crosses of this description, we naturally turn to the wild moorland and hilly country which divides the counties of York and Lancaster, and on the ancient roads which lead from East Lancashire into West Yorkshire we find numerous examples.

The most important of these roads is that—in part of

Roman origin—from Clitheroe Castle through Whalley Abbey, Burnley, and on to Heptonstall and Wakefield. There is little doubt that this road was in use for regal, ecclesiastical, and mercantile* purposes from an early period in English history. East of Burnley the crosses appear to have been erected on hill tops, within sight of each other, at comparatively short distances, for the guidance of travellers, and, tradition says, in memory of those who perished in the snow or were murdered by bands of robbers who ranged over the country even into late Tudor times. The names of these crosses suggest such an origin.

Other ancient roads on which were crosses are those from Colne (Roman station), which passes the Emmott, Cam Hill, and other crosses. Another road is that from Bury, passing in a slightly north-easterly direction, through Rochdale and Littleborough, over Blackstone Edge.

One of the many Roman roads which radiate from Manchester skirts the southern side of the town of Oldham, and passes through Saddleworth and on into Yorkshire. Several crosses are to be found in this locality.

Stockport was a Roman station. Between it and Melandra Castle (another Roman station), ten miles east of Stockport, crosses are again to be found.

In Lancashire, as in many other counties, the word "cross" on the map at the intersection of roads does not necessarily imply that this was the site of a cross, but merely notes the fact of such intersection, and the spot is frequently named from some ancient house or well-known

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*In an article in *Notes and Queries* for 17th December, 1898, on "Crafts and Trades in the Fourteenth Century," Canon Isaac Taylor shows that in the year 1379 the manufacture of wool had long been practiced in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

resident. At the same time, however, this was a common place for a wayside cross, as is suggested by the frequently recurring words on the map of "Cross Houses" or "Cross Hall."

Ancient crosses were often placed on rising ground, and the words "Cross Hillock" and "Crosby Hillock," which stud the ordnance map in certain districts, are interesting reminiscences of the monument which once existed.

It should be noted that our ancient existing crosses do not all now stand in their original positions, many having been moved in widening the roads or in building operations, or taken for safety into the gardens of private houses or into churchyards.

Local names often suggest the sites of ancient crosses. Blackrod, six miles west of Bolton-le-Moors, on the western borders of the Salford hundred, is a place of considerable antiquity, a castle having at one time existed here. Probably, the name Blackrod or Blackrood* indicates the site of a cross. In the middle ages, "By the rood" was a common form of oath. The name Oakenrod may have a similar signification. These wayside or village crosses were frequently of oak, morticed into a stone pedestal.

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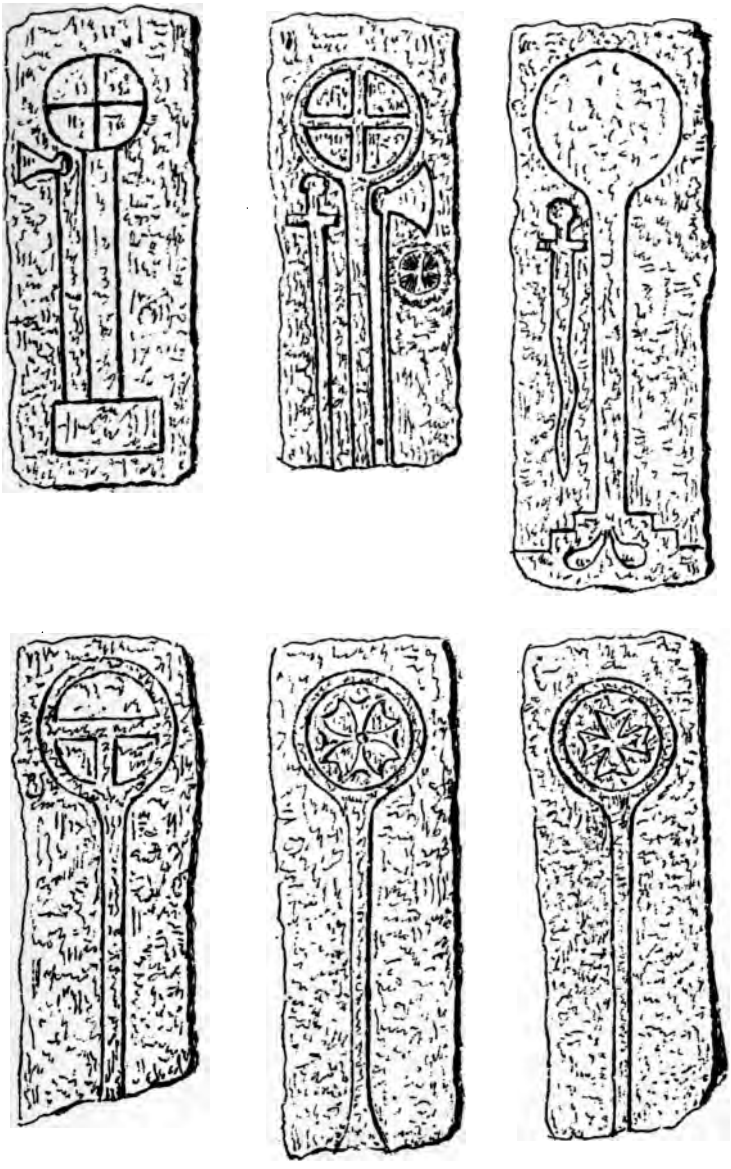
* In an article on "Stone in Topography," in *Notes and Queries* for 21st January, 1899, Canon Isaac Taylor writes: "In the churchyard of Rudston, in the East Riding, there is an enormous block of millstone grit on which a rood or cross must have been erected, as is indicated by the Domesday name, Rudestan or Rodestein, the 'rood stone.'"

BIDDULPH MANOR AND CHURCH.

BY F. RENAUD, M.D.

WHEN, after the dispossession of the Saxon thanes, William I. proceeded to parcel out their landed possessions to his Norman followers, the district in Staffordshire now engaging attention was allotted to Ormus le Guidon, otherwise known as "the forester," of whom little is made manifest save that he acquired ten manors, of which Biddulph and Knipersley were two; also that he left four sons by Emmeline, daughter of Nicholas de Beauchamp, sheriff of the county, and to the two younger of them Biddulph and Knipersley manors descended. Biddulph passed from father to son in an unbroken male line till after the period under our consideration. Knipersley, on the other hand, passed to a family named Bowyer, in the reign of Richard II., by a marriage of Thomas Bowyer with Katherine, sole daughter and heiress of Robert Knipersley.

For all needful purposes, the above constitutes an adequate outline, in agreement with an account of these two families, as contained in Erdeswick's *History of Staffordshire*, and confirmed by later investigations recorded in the *Salt Papers*. Erdeswick's statements are all the more reliable as a family relationship of the two



Sepulchral Slabs in Biddulph Churchyard.

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members had been cemented by an intermarriage in the reign of Henry VIII.

Biddulph Hall, the overlordship of which is at present vested in the person of Francis Stanier, of Peploe Hall, Staffordshire, was built in the reign of Elizabeth by Francis Biddulph, grandfather of John, who was its occupant and possessor at the time of the civil war of Charles I. This John Biddulph was a staunch Royalist, and suffered accordingly. The siege that ended in the destruction of his house came about as follows:—

King Charles I., having ordered his army out of of Scotland, with its aid retook Chester, and Beeston Castle, in 1643, and in the following December laid siege to Nantwich, then garrisoned by the Parliamentary forces under the leadership of Sir William Brereton, who, when further reinforced, in his turn attacked and defeated the Royalist forces in January.

The next objective of the Parliamentary army being Stafford Castle, their forces on the march thither came inconveniently nigh to Brereton Hall, where Lord Brereton, nephew to Sir William, dwelt, and who, having expressed views in opposition to those of his uncle, and who from this circumstance feared to withstand a siege should such be meditated, sought shelter at Biddulph Hall, which was better fortified and garrisoned than his own stately mansion. Apart from this panic fear both of these notable residences might have remained unmolested, but by availing himself of his friend's hospitality, he inadvertently brought about the destruction of the latter, whilst his own escaped uninjured. Lord Brereton's flight having been discovered, and Biddulph Hall then accounted too strong and important a place to be left in the rear, a detachment was sent thither under Sir William Brereton's personal leading, whilst the main

army pursued its way to Stafford. Sir William pitched his forces at a place known as Congleton Edge, where a battery was erected to act against the west side of the hall, but owing to distance little impression was made.

When the siege had lasted some time, without causing any serious damage, a large cannon, called "Roaring Meg," was despatched from Stafford, and a nearer approach selected on rising ground at the east side of the mansion. After further ineffectual bombardment, a ball struck a beam supporting the floors, and there succeeded such a severe shock as to demoralise some of the besieged inmates, notably Lady Brereton, when, at her ladyship's entreaty, the hall surrendered.

The garrison, numbering one hundred and fifty soldiers, together with Captains Biddulph, Skakerley, Minshall of Ardchurch, Major Booth, three sons of Mr. Bellot, and Lord and Lady Brereton, were sent as prisoners to Stafford. Three hundred stands of arms and some ammunition remained in the house (see Burghall's *Diary* and T. W. Barlow's *Cheshire*). Then the process of demolition commenced, for the country people, always fierce and turbulent, ransacked and destroyed the hall, burning combustibles, and carrying off everything they could lay hands on, all the more from their having been pillaged and harassed by the besiegers during a continuance of this internecine strife.

Biddulph Hall (in ruins) is situated a short mile away from Congleton Edge, a ridge of hills dividing the counties of Cheshire and Staffordshire, in a line due south from the town of Congleton. Built in 1588, and destroyed as an abode in 1643, all that remains stands in deserted loneliness to attract attention from the casual wayfarer, to exhibit the stateliness characteristic of Elizabethan architecture, and as a record of the civil and

religious struggle towards freedom through which England was passing. Its owner was characterised by a contemporary writer as "a rank papist," and, being also an upholder of the divine kingly right, could be regarded in no other light than as a nonconformist in the days of Elizabeth, and as "a troubler of Israel" by those who aimed at throwing off both yokes in the times of Charles. In the matter of architecture, Biddulph Hall may be described accurately as a semi-fortified manor-house, without moat, built for purposes of comfort and ease rather than for prolonged defence against organised opposition, though provided with adequate means of security against neighbouring feuds and casual broils. It *tout ensemble* formerly represented a stately, well-proportioned example of sixteenth century renaissance architecture, originally quadrangular in form, furnished with noble bays and oriels, adorned with a four-storied octagonal watch tower capped with a characteristic Tudor cupola, and provided with an ornate approach. Five portholes for cannon are yet visible, four of these piercing the west front, and one the tower, where the building from a gentle declivity looks into the valley beneath. On this side no indentations from the besiegers' shots are observable, though on the south aspect "Roaring Meg" has left undeniable evidence of battering in splinterings and indentations. At present some farm buildings are nestled under the north wall and in front of the ivy-mantled tower.

BIDDULPH CHURCH.

Of its early history little is known. At the date of the General Survey the district comprised four hamlets, viz., Nether, Middle, and Over Biddulph, along with

Knypersley, and this church would seem to have served as their common centre for worship and sepulture. Wherever the Normans settled they built and endowed churches, and enough objective evidence remains to show that Ormus le Guidon and his immediate descendants formed no exception to this general rule. Sepulchral slabs and a circular transition Norman font, embellished with interlacing round-headed arches, and supported on four short pillars surmounted with square-headed capitals, sufficiently indicate late twelfth century workmanship.

A mortuary cross of the Late Decorated period stands unmutilated in the churchyard amongst the few that escaped the "stumping" edict of the Stuart king. Originally fixed in a closer proximity to the church, it was removed to its present site when a north aisle was made an addition to the church, and was then found to rest on a series of incised and unlettered coffin lids, at one time marking out graves within the precincts of the church of early feudal lords, but then accounted of so little value as to serve no more useful purpose than foundation stones for a later structure. To the same uses they would once again have been devoted but for the protest of a more appreciative parishioner, who caused them to be laid side by side where they can now be viewed. The designs wrought on them bear evidence of very early date, quite as early as any figured in printed books treating of post-Saxon monumental remains of a like nature; and in the absence of lettered inscriptions, the martial pursuits of three of the number over whose remains they were placed may correctly be inferred, if shield, sword, and battleaxe are reliable indications, as additional adjuncts to Christian symbols in the twelfth century.

The architectural features of the existing church of Biddulph do not call for special or detailed comment. It is built in a Late Gothic style, with tower, nave, chancel, and side aisles. Within and facing the family pew, which in itself is an excellent example of woodwork wrought in the renaissance style of Elizabeth's reign, a stately altar-tomb stands, richly embellished with the armorial insignia of the Bowyer family, one of whose helmets, surmounted with crest, is suspended from the choir wall. A handsome stained glass window, brought from Belgium, embellishes the south aisle at its eastern end. Other remnants of stained glass, miscellaneously distributed, tell of past excellence in this especial feature. On one, Abraham is represented in the act of offering up Isaac as a sacrifice on Mount Moriah. On another, the three wise men from the east are seen in the act of presenting offerings to the infant Christ seated on the virgin's lap, his head and face encircled with a nimbus, whilst the face, figure, and grouping generally of the madonna and child forcibly recall the genius of Raphael, and indicate its foreign origin and design.

THE COINAGE OF THE ISLE OF MAN.

BY DANIEL F. HOWORTH, F.S.A. (Sc.)

THE coinage of the Isle of Man is so limited in range and variety as readily to lend itself to the treatment of a short communication, such as this paper will be; and there needs scarcely an apology for introducing the subject here, seeing that the island has become to a great extent the playground of at least one of the counties which this Society includes.

The currency of the island, which is a much larger subject than the coinage, has been very fully treated by the late Dr. Clay, of this city, to whose work I must refer any who wish to follow the study of Manx numismatics beyond the limits of this paper.

Before the latter end of the seventeenth century there was no coinage which could be called Manx; the requirements of the trade of an agricultural and fishing people, probably fewer than fifteen thousand in number, were met by the use of Irish and other copper tokens. These were probably introduced by the fishermen and traders of Castletown and Peel, &c., who would take their produce for sale to Dublin, as the nearest important

trading centre at that time. The tradesmen's tokens then so much in use in our own country did suggest, however, to one enterprising Douglas merchant the issue of similar pence; and, as a result, there began in 1688 what may be distinctively called the coinage of the Isle of Man. The last issue bearing the peculiar badge of the island is dated 1839, so that the whole series of Manx coins lies within a space of time barely exceeding a century and a half, and does not include more than fifty varieties. Excluding patterns, there were only fifteen distinct issues, and this small number includes the issues of private tokens. This very limited range has probably induced many collectors to make, if possible, a complete set of the coins, and, as the demand exceeds the supply, Manx coins have naturally a considerably enhanced value.

Before giving details of the coins, it may be well to refer to the distinctive and peculiar badge of the Isle of Man, the well-known "three legs." These are described heraldically as "three legs in armour, embowed and conjoined at the thighs, proper, spurred and garnished, or." When emblazoned on a shield its colour is gules, and the whole bearing is usually or, and the legs are said to be "conjoined in fess point," *i.e.*, in the centre of the shield. On the coins to be described the flexure varies in acuteness, the arming differs in kind, and the conjunction is made in some cases by a triangle, in others by a Y-shaped union of lines. The motto, "Quocunque jeceris stabit" (However you may throw it will stand), in archaic or modernised spelling recurs on most of the issues.

The whole series may readily be arranged under four heads, viz.: (1) Seventeenth century tokens. (2) Coins of the lords of Man (1703–1765). (3) Regal Manx coins (1786–1839). (4) Tokens issued in nineteenth century by bankers and tradesmen (1811–1831).

1. The seventeenth century token already mentioned, of similar character to the contemporary tokens current in England, is the only one of its kind referable to the Isle of Man. It was commonly spoken of as John Murrey's penny, and before the introduction of an official coinage its circulation was legalised.

Obv. Legend, IOHN · MURREY ∴ 1668 ⁝· and in centre HIS | PENNY | I ⁝· M

Rev. Badge, and legend, QVOCVNQVE · GESSERIS · STABIT ·⁝·

2. From the beginning of the fifteenth century (1406) the sovereignty of the Isle of Man was held by the house of Stanley as a fief of the English crown. No one of its lords, however, issued coins for use in the island until James Stanley, the last Earl of Derby who held the lordship, issued pence and halfpence in the early part of the eighteenth century.

Dr. Clay describes a silver piece of the year 1705; this, the first of the official Manx coins, was, however, an unadopted pattern. The first issue for general use is dated 1709. This consisted of two values, pence and half-pence, and is the more remarkable on account of the coins being cast instead of struck. Remembering the smallness of the population for whom the issue was intended, one can quite understand that the slow process of producing coins cast in moulds might suffice to provide all that was necessary. In the year 1710, when, I suppose, a sufficient number had been cast to warrant such a step, an Act was promulgated at Tynwald (June 24th) prohibiting the further use of all the miscellaneous coins then current, with the exception of English regal coins, and the official issue now to be described.

Obv. The crest of the Stanley family, the eagle and child, with, as legend, the motto of the family, ◦SANS◦ CHANGER◦.

Rev. The badge and motto of the island.

Patterns of coinage of similar design to the last described, but of much better appearance, because produced by striking from dies, are extant of the dates 1723, 1724, and 1732; but the next issue for general use was that of the year 1733. This consisted of pence and halfpence, as in the previous issue, by the same earl; but it differs not only in being struck, but in bearing the initials I.D. (for Iacobus Darbiensis) and the figure 1 or the figure ½ on the penny and halfpenny respectively.

When James, the tenth Earl of Derby, died in 1736, leaving no family, the lordship of the island passed to James Murray, Duke of Athol, whose grandmother was the youngest daughter of James, the seventh Earl of Derby. One issue of pence and halfpence was made during the "reign" of this duke, in the year 1758. It bears:—

Obv. A script monogram of the letters D.A. (Duke of Athol) under a ducal coronet.

Rev. The badge and motto of the island. No indication of value.

3. In 1765 the sovereignty of the island reverted by purchase to the crown of England, and three separate issues of pence and halfpence were made in the reign of George III. The coinage of 1786 differed from any other issue of the king's long reign, and was a distinct advance in style and workmanship upon the contemporary English copper money.

Obv. The king's head, laureat, looking to the right, with legend, GEORGIVS III DEI GRATIA.

Rev. The badge and motto of the island.

In 1798 and 1813 the coins issued were more in the style of the English coins then current, having a broad raised rim, with the inscription thereon in sunk or incuse letters. One description will suffice for both pence and halfpence of the two dates:—

Obv. The king's bust, draped, head laureat, looking to the right; legend, GEORGIVS III · D : G · REX.

Rev. The badge and motto of the island.

The reigns of George IV. and William IV. passed without any addition to the official Manx coinage; but in 1839 an issue of pence, halfpence, and farthings was prepared at the English mint, and shipped to the island. This was the last issue bearing the distinctive badge of the three legs conjoined, and the only one in which farthings were included. In size, the three agree with the English coins of like value of that period, and their obverse exactly corresponds, the design and engraving being the work of the late Mr. William Wyon.

Obv. The queen's head, looking to the left; legend, VICTORIA DEI GRATIA.

Rev. The badge and motto of the island.

4. There remain to be mentioned the tokens which were issued by banking firms and traders when the supply of official money failed to meet the requirements of business. Similar tokens were largely used both in Great Britain and in Ireland in the early years of this and the closing years of the last century. In the colonies, too, notably in those of Australasia, the same practice has been more recently followed, until it was forbidden by legal enactment, and rendered unnecessary by the supply from or through the mint being made equal to the demand.

Three silver tokens of the value of five shillings, two shillings and sixpence, and one shilling were put into circulation by the Douglas Bank in 1811. While the term "metallic notes" may be applied to all money which circulates at a higher than its intrinsic value, it is especially applicable to these silver tokens, which bear a distinct "promise to pay."

Obv. A view of Peel Island and Castle, &c., with the legend PEEL CASTLE ISLE OF MAN.

Rev. Legend, around—THE DOUGLAS BANK Co * AT THEIR BANK, DOUGLAS * within—PROMISE | TO PAY | THE BEARER | ON DEMAND | 5 SHILLINGS | BRITISH | 1811.

The half-crown is similar, with "2s. 6d." in the place of value, while the *rev.* of the shilling reads, DOUGLAS | BANK TOKEN | ONE SHILLING | BRITISH | 1811. Along with these the bank issued pence and halfpence, with the same Peel Castle *obv.*, and for

Rev.: (1) DOUGLAS | TOKEN | ONE PENNY | 1811.
(2) DOUGLAS | BANK TOKEN | ONE PENNY | 1811.
(3) DOUGLAS | BANK TOKEN | HALFPENNY | 1811.

The tokens known as the Atlas Tokens were also issued in the same year by another banking firm. The following is their description:—

Obv. Figure of Atlas, kneeling on one knee and supporting the world on his shoulders; legend, around, PAYABLE AT THE OFFICE DOUGLAS.

Rev. The three legs, with legend (1) MANKS TOKEN ONE PENNY 1811; (2) MANKS TOKEN HALFPENNY 1811.

Another penny and halfpenny were also issued in the same year, by still another firm of bankers:—

Obv. The badge and motto of the island.

Rev. (1) Legend, around, ISLE OF MAN 1811, in centre, within double ring, BANK | PENNY; (2) as above, but in centre, BANK | HALF | PENNY.

One other token, bearing the conjoined three legs, is that of the year 1831 :—

Obv. The badge of the island, with the motto in sunk letters on a raised rim.

Rev. Legend, incuse on raised rim, PRO BONO PUBLICO 1831, and in centre the words HALF | PENNY | TOKEN.

In 1830 pence and halfpence were put into circulation by some traders on the island, which are not distinguished by the Manx device, but served to help in meeting the needs of trade at the time. One description serves for both, as there is no indication of value.

Obv. Draped bust of George III., with laureat head looking to the right; legend, GOD SAVE THE KING 1830.

Rev. Legend, FOR | PUBLICK | ACCOMMODATION. The first and last words following the circle of the coin, the centre one straight across.

There remains but one other token to be mentioned, the halfpenny, of which but few specimens are known, bearing as an *obv.* the Peel Castle shown on the shilling token, and as *rev.* simply the name S · ASH. Though so few of these can now be traced, they have apparently been in circulation, and some varieties are found in them.

Manx numismatics generally might be so enlarged as to include more than I have attempted to describe here; bnt in this short *resumé* I think all that can be classed as coins and tokens clearly connected with the island have been included. To-day, like all the British possessions at home or abroad, where the £. s. d. is the standard money (with the sole exception of the Channel Islands), the monetary circulation of the island includes the bronze pence, halfpence, and farthings familiar to us all.

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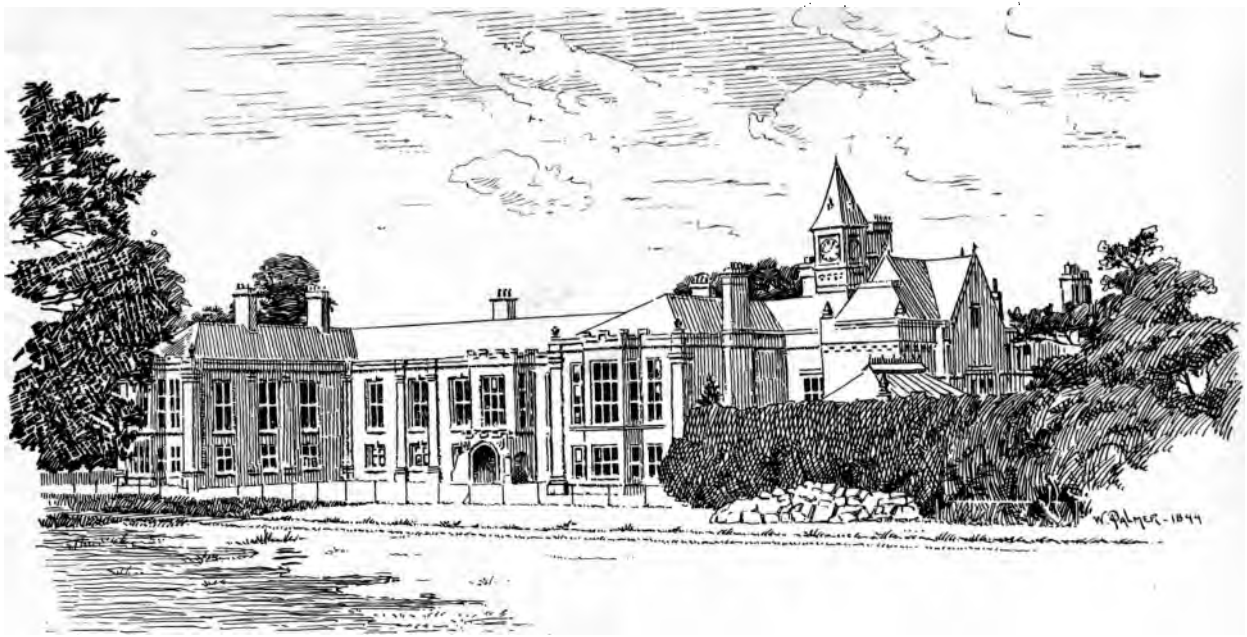

VALE ROYAL, CHESHIRE.

VALE RQYAL ABBEY.

BY J. J. PHELPS.

AN oft-quoted adage has it "the pen is mightier than the sword," and I think I might add "ink is stronger than walls of stone," for were it not for the good black ink of the learned monastic scribes very little would be known of the history of the vanished monastery of Vale Royal. Its site we know, but of its walls scarcely one stone remains upon another above the ground which with any certainty can be defined as part of this ancient monastery dedicated to the honour of Christ, the Virgin Mary, and St. Nicasius. Its conception, its building, its career, and its overthrow were alike remarkable. It was, as it were, born in a storm, its life was most tempestuous, and its destruction was the result of that storm, raised for royal arbitrary purposes and for the dissolution of religious power, which passed over the land during the reign of Henry VIII., razing to the ground many a noble edifice, and causing wanton ruin and the irreparable loss of some of the noblest "crystallisations" of thought in architecture and handicraft that ever emanated from the minds of medieval ecclesiastical builders, stimulated to superlative effort by the conviction that all the care and

labour they bestowed on sacred edifices and the furnishing and the adornment of them was dedicated to the "honour and glory of God."

My paper on this, one of the most interesting historic sites in Cheshire, is but brief. I merely give an outline of its history, gathered from authentic sources. The leger book and charters of the abbey, "written and pricked by the third Randle Holme," are preserved in the British Museum (Harleian MSS., No. 2,064). From these we learn that Prince Edward, eldest son of Henry III., when returning to England from the Holy Land, encountered a storm of such violence that his ship was on the point of foundering. In his extremity he made a vow that, if the Virgin would aid in the preservation of himself and crew, he would endow a monastery. Directly the vow was made the storm ceased, and the vessel was miraculously brought to shore, but no sooner had they landed, the legend says, than the storm again rose and the ship was dashed to pieces. Edward did not forget his vow, he induced his father to obtain monks of the Cistercian order and the necessary books of divinity with which to form a monastery for one hundred monks. This he founded in 1266* at Dernhall, near Over, but it did not suit the brotherhood, and when Edward became king he obtained the land upon which Vale Royal now stands, then called "Queténne Halewes" and "Munechene Wro" (rendered in the charters as "Sanctorum frumentum" and "Monachorum silva"), which, amongst the few inhabitants of the locality, had already obtained a reputation for sanctity, for things wonderful and

* The date is given by Tanner (*vide* Dugdale, v. 701), but Ormerod states that the colony of monks were first introduced from Dore Abbey in 1273.

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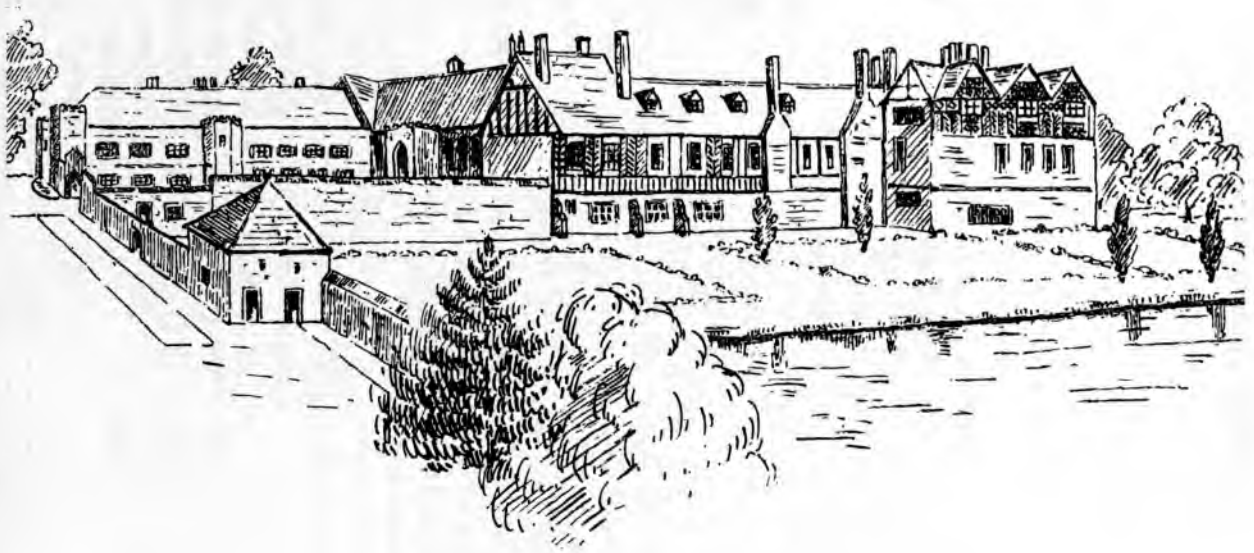

Vale Royal in 1775.

Vale Royal in 1616.

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supernatural were spoken of as having been seen there. Here on the 2nd August, 1277, the site having been duly consecrated by Anianus, the second bishop of St. Asaph of that name, King Edward I. laid the foundation stone of a more extensive monastery, which he named the Abbey of Vale Royal; his queen, Eleanor, laid two, one for herself and one for her young son Alphonso. It is a curious fact that during alterations so recently as 1833 two silver coins of Edward I. were discovered under the bases of two old stone pillars, probably the identical coins placed there by the royal founders. Many of the highest nobles of the land who assisted at the brilliant ceremony followed their example, amongst whom it is interesting to notice was John de Greyley or Greslet, either the manorial lord of Manchester or a member of that family. The building, begun with so much pageantry and splendour, grew to magnificent proportions, for it took many years to build, and the royal treasury was drawn upon to the extent of £32,000, an enormous sum in those times. Continually being added to, it was not completed till 1330, a period of fifty-three years having elapsed since its foundation stones were laid, and during that period its first four abbots lived in a small building close by. Right royally endowed, it had a goodly portion of the surrounding country conferred upon it for its support, viz., the manors of Dernhall, Over, and Weaverham, with the granges of Merton, Earnslow, Conwardesley, Bradford, Knights Grange, and Hefferston. Its abbots were allowed great privileges by the king, and had the power of life and death within their manors. They lived in baronial splendour for over two hundred years, having their seneschal, under seneschal, and other dignitaries; the law of their court being administered by a coroner and the bailiffs of Over and Weaverham, in

whom a capital jurisdiction was vested with "Infangtheóf" and "Outfangtheóf." Unfortunately, the powers conferred upon the abbots became exceedingly irksome to their tenantry, causing constant friction between the abbey and its neighbours; sometimes culminating in rebellions, fightings, or suits at law; indeed, the lives of the abbots were exceedingly stormy. The leger book, section sixty-seven, contains a long list of impositions and taxes exacted, and the severity of the laws enforced by the abbey upon their tenantry, were it not for the written record, would be almost incredible.

Here follow the names of the abbots; but the length of their tenure of office is not always clear: (1) John Champneys; he did much to increase the domains of the abbey. (2) Walter de Hereford occurs soon after 1300, and was of a pugnacious disposition. (3) John de Hoo resigned owing to the hatred of the neighbourhood. (4) Richard de Evesham, also hated, and had his horse shot under him. (5) Peter, under whom the abbey was completed in 1330, had a troublous reign. (6) Robert appears as abbot in 1342. (7) Thomas appears as abbot in 1346 and again in 1366. (8) Stephen occurs in the leger book as abbot in 1373, and during his abbacy Henry IV., with his queen and mother, visited the abbey. (9) Henry de Weyngton (or Weryngton) occurs about the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. (1422). (10) William also occurs during this reign. (11) Thomas de Kirkham occurs first in the leger book in 1440; he was Bishop of Sodor and Man, and died before 1475. (12) William Stratford, from 1475. (13) John Buckley; this abbot led his tenantry in person to the number of three hundred men at the battle of Flodden, in 1513, along with the Holford and Bostock families (*Harl. MSS.*, 604, p. 56). (14) John Harwood,

from whom the abbey was wrested at the suppression by Thomas, Lord Cromwell, who himself had held the office of seneschal. There is, preserved in the Bodleian Library, a touching letter from this abbot to Lord Cromwell (see Dugdale's *Monast.*, v. 702).

In 33 Henry VIII. (1542) the site of the abbey, with the granges of Conersley, Bradford, Ernesley, Merton, Petty Pool Hill and dam, and Bradford Mylne were granted to Thomas Holcroft, an esquire of the king's body, for the sum of £450. 10s. 6d. Four years later, the manors of Weaverham and Over were also granted to him, he being then Sir Thomas Holcroft, subject to the rent of £10. 0s. 4d., in consideration of the sum of £464. 10s. 10d. and the manor of Cartmel given in exchange. Dernhall and its appendages was granted (33 Henry VIII.) to Sir Rowland Hill, knight, and merchant of the city of London. Thus fell the abbey of Vale Royal and the power of its abbots, and so utter has been its effacement that no pictorial representation is at present ascertained to be extant to give an idea of the former magnificence of the building or outline of the ground plan. There is no view of it in the Bodleian Library, nor does the London Society of Antiquaries or the British Museum possess one. We can guess where its plate and treasures would go, and its fittings and furniture would be no doubt burnt or scattered. What are left are but fragmentary remains, such as the cross and portions of stonework in the grounds, the old oak door, some few parts of the basement, a subterranean passage leading towards Dernhall, vaulting in the cellars, impressions of the abbey seal, its charters, coat of arms, and various other items. In the neighbourhood the nomenclature of various places is sufficiently indicative of the monastery and its abbots.

There is "the Abbot's Walk," "Abbot's Moss," "Abbot's Cross," "Abbey Arms" (inn), "the Monk's Well," "the Nun's Grave," "the High Altar," (Our) "Lady's Wood," &c. In two of the windows of the great hall are glass panels, symbolical of the dedication and the building of the abbey, but it would require an expert in medieval glasswork to say whether they formed part of the windows of the abbey chapel.

After the Dissolution its monastic character ceased; it became the manor-house and seat of a branch of the family of Holcroft, of Holcroft Hall, near Leigh, in Lancashire, for two generations. During this period the buildings were much altered, and after various vicissitudes it was in 1616 sold by the Holcrofts to Mary, Lady Cholmondeley, widow of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley. She was the daughter and sole heiress of Christopher Holford, of Holford, near Peover, and was known as "the bold ladie of Cheshire." Her husband, Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, was the founder of the family of that name, of Cholmondeley and of Vale Royal. His death in 1601 was a great event, and a long list of county families at his funeral is in the British Museum. He was knighted on the occasion of the expected Spanish invasion in 1588, and it is said that Queen Elizabeth bestowed a knighthood on Lady Cholmondeley for her valour and patriotism in encouraging the troops in Cheshire, a royal act probably without precedent. In 1617 she entertained James I. at Vale Royal, where he held his court for several days, and, to mark his royal satisfaction, gave her the appellation of "the best lady of Cheshire." At her death in 1625 she devised this property to her fourth son Thomas, who was born at Holford, 1594-5, and died at Vale Royal in 1652. He was the first Cholmondeley of Vale Royal, and a

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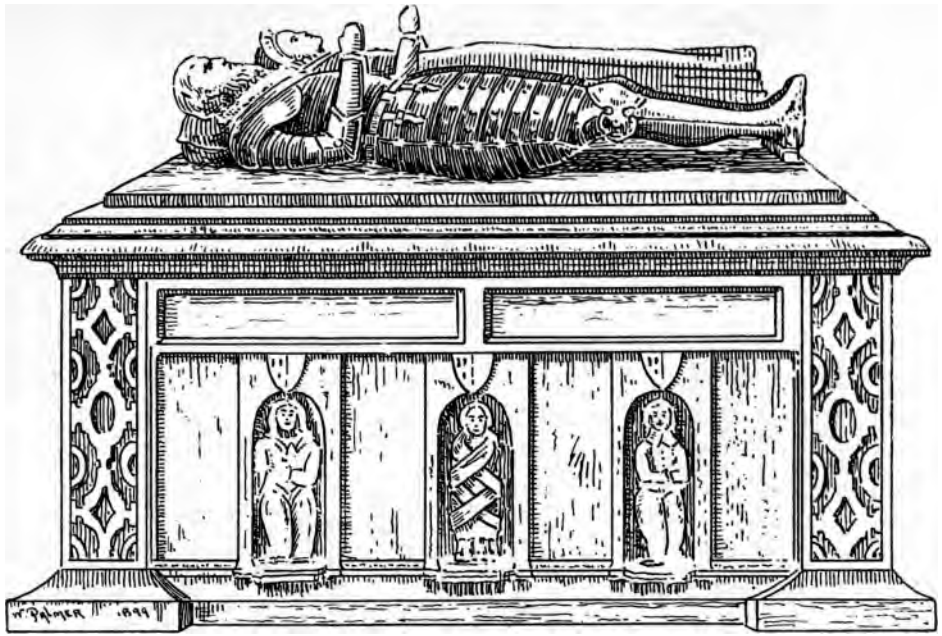

MONUMENT OF SIR HUGH AND LADY MARY CHOLMONDELEY AT MALPAS.

staunch Royalist. During the great rebellion the losses he sustained from the Parliamentary soldiers being quartered in his house amounted to over £348. It was during his occupancy, according to tradition, that the famous "Cheshire prophet," Nixon, was here provided with a home, although it is stated that he lived at the "Bark House," which is on the footway to Over from Vale Royal. He is credited with having predicted many events relating to the place, one of which was that the abbey of Vale Royal and Norton Priory should meet. This is supposed to have taken place when Acton Bridge was built, stones having, it is said, been taken from both these places for the purpose of building it. Several editions of his prophecies have been published, which those interested may read. The original documents are kept as heirlooms in the Delamere family.

The house suffered severely during the Civil Wars, being pounded and plundered by the troops of General Lambert, and the south wing long remained in ruins. There is a story that when the plunderers left they took with them all the cattle and horses, except one white cow with red ears, and that a white horse escaped and returned. They were of so much use in aiding and succouring the now almost ruined family that cattle of a similar colour have ever since been kept at Vale Royal; at any rate, it is a well-known fact that white cattle, horses, and fowls were usual there up to a few years ago.

On the death of Thomas Cholmondeley, Vale Royal came into the possession of his third son, Thomas, born in 1627, and made sheriff of Cheshire in 1660. He was twice married, having twelve children by his first wife and five by the second. He died at Vale Royal on February 26th, 1701-2, and was succeeded by his son Charles, who was the first son of the above-named second wife. He

was born in 1684, and was elected M.P. for the county of Chester in 1710; he died in 1756. His third son Thomas, born in 1726, then came into possession of the estate. He also was elected M.P. for Cheshire in 1756, and died on June 2nd, 1779, being succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas Cholmondeley (born 1767, died 1855). He was created Baron Delamere, of Vale Royal, July 17th, 1821, by George IV., with whom he was on intimate terms. According to report, the king asked him whether he would be called Lord Weaver or Lord Delamere; he selected the latter title. He was succeeded by his son Hugh, the second Lord Delamere, born in 1811, and died in 1887; his son, the present and third baron, born 1870, is also named Hugh, and has attained fame as a hunter of big game in Africa. It is worth noting that a similar title was borne by the Booth family, of Dunham Massey. Sir George Booth, who took a prominent part in bringing about the restoration of monarchy, was in 1661 created Lord Delamere, of Dunham Massey. This title, however, became practically extinct about the year 1770, on the death of the fourth Lord Delamere of the Booth family.

Authorities consulted have been: Dugdale's *Monasticon Anglicanum*, Lyson's *Magna Britannia*, Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, King's *Vale Royal*, and the *Cheshire Sheaf*.

Seal of Vale Royal Abbey.

Arms of Vale Royal Abbey.

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THE ROMAN CAMP AT CASTLESHAW AND THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE SADDLEWORTH DISTRICT.

BY SAMUEL ANDREW.

THERE is no more interesting valley in the kingdom than Castleshaw, its chief interest being its self-contained unwritten history of the British nation. From primitive man in the New Stone Age to the latest engineering work done by the Oldham Corporation this valley has furnished traces on the surface of the ground of every surge of civilisation which has swept over these isles. To get at once to facts we must plant our feet on one of the oldest, if not one of the longest, roads in the kingdom. It is the road by which the ancient Roman army came and went, and what gives it special interest to this Society is the fact that Castleshaw marks the end of the first day's march of the Roman army northwards from Manchester, which city has recently yielded its story of Roman spoils through the efforts of Mr. Charles Roeder, one of our esteemed members.

The Rev. John Watson, formerly rector of Stockport, says: "Castleshaw, in Saddleworth, was doubtless the

first day's march of the Romans from Manchester, and Slack the second." He is of opinion that the Romans did well to keep possession of these "castra pro unius diei itinere," or "camps of one day's march," that "they might, as soldiers on their motions, be sure of convenient lodging and other necessaries for the night." These garrisons, he says, seldom consisted of more than a centurion's command.

The Rev. John Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, says: "The little station at Castleshaw is very evident on the present track of the way to Slack. . . . The camp at Castleshaw is seated directly at the foot of Standedge, and within a couple of furlongs from the course of the Roman road. This I have shown before to have been probably a fortress of the Sistunii, but to have extended along the area which rises over the rest of the ground, and is all equally denominated the 'Husteads,' and all defined by the Castle Hills. But the Roman station on the site seems to have been contracted into a narrower compass and to have been enclosed within the fosse that still appears encircling a rounded eminence near the centre and encompassing about three-quarters of a statute acre. . . . They (these little camps) could be calculated, I think, for two purposes only—that of securing the roads just entering the wild region of the hills and the more important one of being the necessary baiting places for the soldiers just mounting the cliffs of the British Alps."* Thompson Watkin, in his *Roman Lancashire*, says: "There is an intermediate station at Castleshaw, a little over the Lancashire boundary."

The Roman road from Manchester to Castleshaw may even yet be traced for the most part, and, curious to

* See *Hist. Manchester*, pp. 231-3.

note, there is a Shudehill within a short distance of the terminus at each end. The course of this road has been particularly described by Thomas Percival, whose observations on the Roman colonies and various stations in Cheshire and Lancashire, printed in *Philosophical Transactions*, have but recently been unearthed. He says: "The Roman road from Mancunium to Eboracum, or York, goes near the top of the Deansgate, in Manchester, and crossing the enclosures on the south-east end of the town appears in an enclosure near Ancoats, then runs through Bradford and crosses the very middle of Newton Heath, Newton Chapel standing on the very ridge of it. Standing at the west end of the chapel you see the trace of it into Bradford Lane. Standing at the east end you see the trace of it go betwixt a house and a barn on the east end of the common. It then runs through the enclosures to Mr. Wagstaffe's house, where it enters a lane, and is visible enough. In about four hundred yards more, being interrupted with a moss, it rises with a prodigious grandeur, and is the finest remain of a Roman road in England that I ever saw. This is at the back of Mr. Jenkinson's house in Failsworth, his land lying on both sides, and is now called Street.

"It is visible for half a mile more along a back lane leading to Hollinwood, but on the lane turning to the common it strikes across a meadow of Mr. Whitehead's, and is visible for some small part of it. Tradition directs its course to Glodwick Lows, and some places where it has been found in ploughing shows its course to be so, and near Glodwick it is visible in a meadow for some score of yards pointing over the lows. Tracing it forward it is very visible at the descent of the hill, quite over Mr. James Wild's land (at New Earth). There is a small cob on this hill, by some

supposed to have been a fort; if it was it must have been a very small one, though I rather take it for a tumulus than an exploratory tower. It crosses hence, and is visible in the grounds of John Mayol, of Wellihole. It then passes through the Rev. Mr. Townson's land, leaving Haigh Chapel a little to the south, and so goes up the hill to Osterlands, on the upper side of the village, making towards the High More, and going along the enclosures on the south edge it comes close to Knothill, in Saddleworth, and along the south of Knot Lane, and so crosses over the present road from Manchester to Huthersfield at Delf, and goes over the fields to Castleshaw. At Castleshaw I was well pleased to find a double Roman camp."*

Though Thompson Watkin does not quote Mr. Percival's account of the road, he confirms generally, with some additional particulars, the course of this road, and quotes Mr. Just, Mr. Butterworth, and others in support.

Following the road from Hollinwood there have been found confirmatory evidences of the presence of the ancient Romans in these parts, and also, if I mistake not, of the ancient Briton. At Chamber Mill, Hollinwood, there was found in 1887 a hoard of copper coins of the Roman period dating from 135 A.D. to 235 A.D.; most of these coins are now in the possession of Miss Jackson, of Wellington Lodge, Oldham. A Roman patera has also been found in this district by Mr. Howorth, uncle to our esteemed member, Mr. D. F. Howorth, and presented to me by Mr. A. Taylor, of Bury.

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* See *Philosophical Transactions*, vol. xlvii., 1751-2, "Observations on the Roman Colonies and Stations in Cheshire and Lancashire," by Thomas Percival, Esq.; communicated by Hugh, Lord Willoughby of Parham, F.R.S.

Near the course of the road on what was known as the Swineclough estate, now the Oldham Park, there was found, when the playground was being made, a silver penny of the reign of Domitian. This coin is now in the Oldham Free Library and Museum. These are stubborn facts, beyond disproof. But what strikes one as most peculiar is the fact that many relics still remain on the whole course of the road, and on each hand, of the ancient land system of Britain, namely, the open field, and also of other primitive economics in this country.

These primitive economics were no doubt in existence here when the Romans came to this island. Sir Henry Maine thought they were the special heritage of the Aryan race, while Dr. Seebohm has tried to teach us that they could only have arisen from the influences of civilising powers such as the Roman. I fear that both of them were wrong, and, though the subject is too large to be dealt with thoroughly in a paper like this, I hope before having done to give sufficient reasons for differing from them both. One thing is certain, and that is that when the Romans came here they found between Manchester and Castleshaw a sturdy race of people, of whom we find evidence to this day. The importance of this subject cannot be over-rated. It will help to solve one of the greatest questions of modern times in England, namely, "Who is the modern Englishman?" Is he a survival of those grand old races that peopled these isles at first, or was he "made in Germany?" We have spent more blood and treasure in settling this question than in settling all other questions of domestic politics put together. Indeed it has been the Irish question of the Englishman ever since the English were a people, and it can only be solved by studying what the French call the "Science des origines."

But to our evidences of the ancient land system. This system is what is known as the open field. One of its features was common rights of pasture. Beginning with Hollinwood we find in old deeds still in existence mention of common pasture in various places all the way to Castleshaw. For instance, at the common or moor called Hollinwood, at Werneth (modern Welsh "Gwernydd," the open or unploughed field), at Oldham, at Swineclough, at Greenacres, at Lees, at Highmoor, at Woodward Hill, at the two Knot Hills, and on the sides of this valley of Castleshaw.

Another feature of the open field was terrace cultivation. We find traces of this at Glodwick Lows, which still bears the name of Clents; at Leesfield, which still bears the name of Bongs or Banks; at Luzley (or loose-ley), which still bears the name of Ridge Hill, or Ridge Hill Lanes; at Bucton, at Slences, and, at least in name, at Grinacres, Rugging Bunk, Cross Bank, Taylor Green, Shortlands, and Alston Lands, now called Austerlands; while in this Castleshaw valley there still remain portions of the old terraces at a place significantly called Bungs or Bunks. Another feature of the open field was scattered or intermixed ownership. This we find at Leesfield, a plan of the "doles" being still in existence. We also find it, at least in name, in the "doles" at Highmoor and the "doles" near Wharmton, which were common to some village community, which may have had its seat at Grinacres, afterwards known as Grinacres Chartership. As to these doles, it is well we understand something of them. They were deals in the sense of casting lots. In a village community a particular piece of land, which was to be cultivated by a certain member or official, was allotted to him by a process of shaking in the hat. Let no one be shocked at this statement. A

goodly man of the olden time once said: "The lot is fallen to me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage." This system of casting lots was almost universal. In these British Isles it was quite universal. As an example I may quote an instance given by Mr. Gomme in the *Village Community*, p. 268: "In the parishes of Congresbury and Puxton (Somersetshire) are two large pieces of common land called East and West Dolemoors, which are divided into single acres (or 'akkers,' as we call them here), each bearing a peculiar and different mark cut in the turf, such as a horn, four oxen and a mare, a pole axe, cross, dung fork, oven, duck's nest, hand-reel, and hare's tail. On the Saturday before Old Midsummer several proprietors of estates in the parishes of Congresbury, Puxton, and Week St. Lawrence or their tenants assembled on the commons. A number of apples are previously prepared, marked in the same manner with the before-mentioned acres, which are distributed by a young lad to each of the commoners from a bag or hat. At the close of the distribution each person repairs to his allotment as his apple directs him and takes possession for the ensuing year." Sometimes the lot was cast by "drawing cuts" or sticks of different lengths. I find mention of these doles, or dooals, or dales, in many places in Lancashire and the adjoining counties. It is surely interesting to note the recurrence of these doles along the course of the Roman Road, and to trace back their history to a period which is not only archaic, but which brings us back to a period when our ancient people dwelt in clans and tribes, and when the use of metal was not known in these parts. This system of open field, I have good reason to think, is pre-Aryan—recent investigations will, I think, prove this. The book by Mr. Laurence Gomme on the village community

throws light on the whole subject, and, though some writers are reticent on the subject, my opinion is that when this is fully proved it will help us to judge what kind of being early man in Britain was, and will confirm much that has been suggested of him by our esteemed member, Professor Boyd Dawkins.

And now I begin with the few traces which have been found in this valley, or near it, of primitive man in Britain. I am not sure that we cannot find traces on the hill tops hereabout of the Paleolithic period. I am not a judge in such matters, but when I tell you that in thirty places, chiefly on the tops of the hills, which can easily be counted on the map, within a small circle from this centre, there have been found flint flakes, knives, saws, scrapers, arrow-heads, &c., it seems likely that we may have had here some Paleolithic dwellers. But in this valley of Castleshaw there have certainly been found the working tools of men of the Neolithic period. Mr. W. Watts, who superintended the making of these Oldham reservoirs, found such implements here, and, I believe, has them still in his possession. They consist of two celts of polished stone, one found on Millstone Edge, and the other in the brookstead now covered by the waterworks. The urns found on Pule are said to have been of the Bronze Age, but I am not sure that the Bronze Age on the Continent was contemporaneous with the Bronze Age of Britain. There have also been found two urns and a stone hammer at Brown Hill, near Saddleworth Station, not far from here, just by the side of the railway. Drawings of these urns and hammer are to be found in vol. iii., *Local Notes and Gleanings of Oldham and Neighbourhood*, by Giles Shaw, F.R.H.S. You have a description of them and how they were found in Canon Raines's MSS. Now I think it is generally

admitted that the Neolithic period was Iberian and pre-Aryan. If so, the working tools of that period found in this valley correspond with the ancient land system which prevailed here, which was also pre-Aryan. When the Romans came to Britain we have it on the best authority that it was many centuries after the Aryan conquest, and that they found the Britons a mixed race of Iberians and Aryans. The Iberians were stone-folk and hillmen, and perhaps cave or lake dwellers. The use of metals was not known to them. The Aryans belonged to a Metallic Age, and as a conquering race were more intelligent and had a different shape of skull. Moreover, the Aryan was a Celt, and he imposed his language on the conquered Iberian. Consequently, nearly all place-names and object-names in the district were Celtic, very few Iberian words remaining. Now the question comes: Is there anything to be found in this Castleshaw valley which may be taken as an evidence of this conquest? My answer is, Yes! and it is to be found in connection with the ancient land system which prevailed here. We may always take it that conquest among partly-civilised tribes means slavery to the conquered. If it be asked who were the first slaves or serfs in Britain I should answer the Iberians or stone-folk, who were by no means an unintelligent race, as we are told by Professor Boyd Dawkins. They were the first spinners, weavers, and potters, and we have also seen they had a good system of agriculture as things went then. The mark of conquest or slavery which remains in this valley is contained in an ancient deed bearing date 6 Edward VI., which is evidently a recital of a much earlier deed at a period when the land on Friarmere was abbey land, belonging to Rupe, and it relates to the ancient custom of boons or booner, which latter word is probably a shorter form of

the word boonwork. These boons take different forms in various parts of this country and indeed on the Continent, but wherever found they are the universal mark of slavery or serfdom, and therefore of conquest, which was the cause of slavery. Along the line of road to this valley we find this boonwork. At Oldham it took the shape of shearing for nothing and payment of heriots at death. In Ashton parish we find it was ploughing, harrowing, carrying, and shearing along with heriots.

In this valley the old patent roll of 6 Edward VI. describes it as the custom called "booner." It is not known what this booner was, but in Saddleworth probably it took the shape of a carrying service, as we find mention in one of the old deeds of "avera," which signified beasts of burden. No doubt we shall get more light on the subject some day. Beyond all this, we have a vast array of place-names, most of which can be traced to a British origin. After Hollinwood, wherein was common pasture, we leave on our left "Chamber," which really means "Camber," with a hard C or K. Any Celtic scholar can choose the meaning of it, only remember that we have a splendid find of Roman coins here. We also leave beyond it Werneth, otherwise "Gwernydd," the open or unploughed field. Next we come to Copster Hill. "Cop" I need not define, but "ster" or stur or stour, Flavell Edmunds says, is perhaps from the British "is," and "twr" or "tor" under or at the foot of a hill: that is, a hill at the foot of another hill, which exactly answers the description of Copster Hill. Then we come to Yatefield and Honeyway Lane, not Honeywell Lane; then Swineclough, with open field rights, and a Roman silver coin of the reign of Domitian found in its grounds. Then we get to Glodwick Lows and Clents. Perhaps

Dr. Seebohm can tell us what these clents were. Then we come to "New Yurth." This is the vernacular, not New Earth, as the schoolmasters would say. Then we come down Roe Lane to Wellihole. Hereabouts we have several quaint names, as Sett, Bunk, Bank Top, &c.; but the quaintest name is Welly Field. If you want to know the meaning of this you must consult Dr. Seebohm, who will tell you that Welly or Wele or Gwely signifies the family couch of a prehistoric period. Pass we on to Mr. Townson's land, through which by Turn Lees, Further Hey, and Nearer Hey came up a length of the said Roman road, recently identified. This road is well defined to-day, where, on the left, higher up, by the brookstead, we find Dowry, otherwise in the Celtic tongue *Dwr-y*, the place of water; but, says the record, we leave Hey Chapel a little to the south, and then (by Thorpe Lane) we mount the hill towards Austerlands. Then, leaving on our immediate track on the left hand Dove Cote or water cote, near which a stream of water flowed, and does so to-day, both words being of British origin, we find a very ancient farm still charged with a heriot. Then we come to Birks, called after the sacred Birch, the old name being Three Nooks. Nimble Nook lies on the left hand, a short distance down the Huddersfield Road. Then we enter Quick, the equivalent of the Cornish gwic, for the meaning of which see Schrader's *Prehistoric Antiquities*, and come to Cricketty Lane and Gig, then to Slack Midden, which, in my opinion, is the union of two Roman roads, one road coming from Grotton, another British name, the other from Melandra. Proceeding towards High Moor we come to another "Nook," otherwise British cnwc; then to Thorpes, which is a frequent place-name; then past Herdslow, otherwise Yerths-low, and Doctor Head

Greave, and Thurston Clough, to Knarr and Knarr Barn; past Hill Top and through Knot (*cnuot*, O.H.G.) Lane, down Shudehill (from the British scwd, pronounced shude, a short or steep narrow road). Crossing the stream at Delph we pass Causeway Sett, and along by the side of Hull Brook we join the Great Way, as it is described in an ancient deed of 1314, which brings us to Castleshaw, where we have two British nooks adjoining the camp, viz., Blake Hey Nook and Marlyerth Nook ("*cnwc*," signifying a knob or boss of rock).

With regard to the Roman camp at Castleshaw, it is only fair to say that very considerable doubt exists in some people's minds as to whether there is anything here of a Roman character at all. I have heard more than one gentleman say that there is nothing Roman about it, nor any trace of the Romans here, and I am told that only recently a visitor to this place, who is interested in Roman finds elsewhere, pronounced against Castleshaw being a Roman station.

These good people remind me of a certain man of old who is reported to have said: "Nay, Father Abraham, but if one rose from the dead they will repent." I am also reminded of the answer, and I am quite of opinion that if they believe not the united testimony of Percival, Watson, Whitaker, and our own Thompson Watkin, neither would they believe if an old Roman soldier were to rise from the dead. Those who have seen the Roman stations at Melandra and along the Roman wall of Hadrian, however, have given a different opinion. Certainly but few Roman remains have been found in our day at Castleshaw. There have been working near to this place, though not in the camp itself, a great number of navvies, who might easily have turned

up the whole ground if they had only been instructed; but I have not heard of any serious attempt being made till within the last twelve months of discovering what lies beneath the surface. The feeble attempt which has been made by a few local gentlemen recently has certainly been very encouraging, and I trust arrangements may be made for a thorough scientific investigation. For the most part we have to take it on trust from such men as Whitaker of Manchester, the Rev. John Watson, and Thomas Percival, that there is a Roman camp here, and one of the last efforts of Thomas Percival was to put this station into its proper place among other stations, which formed a connection between York and Deva. It is contained in a letter dated Royton, July 8th, 1760, and published in vol. i., page 62, of *Archæologia*. It would seem that at that time the exact position of Cambodunum had not been discovered. He wrote as follows: "Mr. Watson and myself have traced the Roman way in Yorkshire, and find the road goes directly to Kirklees, and this, or rather Clifton, must be the Cambodunum of the ancients. The Roman camp is between Clifton and Kirklees." The camp was afterwards found at Slack. Mr. Percival adds: "By placing the 'ad fines inter Maximam et Flaviam' at Castleshaw in Saddleworth, where there is a camp of large size and many other proofs of a station; this is only transposing it from standing before Mancunium to standing after it in the sixth iter of Richard the Monk, published by Dr. Stukeley; the whole iter is exact, and the places well ascertained, so that thus corrected it should stand:—

"Eboracum - - - - York.
"Calcaria - - - - - Tadcaster.
"Cambodunum - - - (Slack) Kirklees or Clifton.

"Ad fines inter Maximamet Flaviam -	Castleshaw.
"Mancunium - - - -	Manchester.
"Condate - - - - -	Kineton.
"Deva - - - - - -	Chester."

I am aware that in recent years Richard the Monk has been seriously discredited. Indeed some people doubt if he ever had an existence, but with Mr. Percival's correction the iter which goes under Richard's name is not only possible but probable, and in this district it becomes, to some extent, reconciled with the second iter of Antoninus. Certain it is that the country north of the Thames, east of the Severn, and south of the Humber and Mersey was known as Flavia Caesariensis, and that the country north of the Mersey and Humber to the Wall of Severus was known as Maxima Caesariensis. These two districts were presided over by officers of a rank inferior to the Vicarius at York, known by the name of pro-consul, and the natural division between these two districts would be the watershed of the Mersey. Castleshaw is on that watershed, and is very probably the "ad fines inter," or the limit between Maxima and Flavia. Edwin Butterworth tells us that the land between the Ribble and the Mersey belonged to the district of Maxima. Certain it is that the ancient earls of Chester, who owned the land after Roger of Poictou, more particularly Randle Blundeville, the Crusader, had the title "Dux Britanniae," and his land would thus extend to Castleshaw. This proves to my mind that Saddleworth, like other parts of the ancient parish of Rochdale, originally belonged to Lancashire, and that it has been stolen from them since the days of Randle. This may have been done by the old cartographers at a time when Saddleworth

people were not so alive to their own interests as they are to-day. Possibly it may have arisen out of the dispute between Rupe and Whalley, and Saddleworth would go to that party which pulled the strongest. Certainly the divisions between Lancashire and Yorkshire to-day are merely capricious, and the division in some places is only marked by a fence or even an imaginary line. We may take it for granted that the original divisions were more substantial, and that the everlasting hills which mark the Pennine Chain were the more business-like and proper divisions of the two counties. This, however, is mere theory, and I do not claim the credit of being the first to advocate it. Mr. Hirst, the late editor of the *Oldham Chronicle*, was one of the first to advocate this theory and he published his views in *Saddleworth Sketches*, though it was first mentioned by Whitaker. With regard to the finds at Castleshaw, James Butterworth tells us of an altar, dedicated to Fortune, found here. The description is said to have been: "Fortunæ Sacrum Caius Antonius, Modestus Centurii legionis Sextæ Victricis Piæ Fidelis Votum Solvit lubens Merito." Whitaker claimed that this altar was found at Cambodunum. Most interesting "finds" relating to the native ancient iron industry have been made on the sides of some of the Saddleworth hills. Cinder heaps, or, more properly, slag heaps have been found in several places near Standedge, one under Millstone Edge at a place just on the edge of the higher reservoir recently made by the Oldham Corporation, and one, if not two, have been found near to Diggle. But perhaps the most interesting find of this nature was made in October, 1897, when some gentlemen were digging at Castleshaw, and struck what must have been formerly a hearth made of burnt clay, in which were found three

matrices which had been used for casting iron ingots, which were probably used as a medium of exchange. The hearth must have been once a shapeless mass of clay with a surface of twelve to fifteen square feet. It was clear where the fire had been, and the matrices were so placed that the metal would run into them when in a molten state from the fire. Abundance of charcoal was found on the hearth, and slag was found near it. Schrader, in his *Prehistoric Antiquities*, page 204, tells us: "In Homer iron is used as a medium of exchange like copper, and is stored in the treasure chambers of the rich. At the funeral games of Patroclus, Achilles offers as a prize a mass of iron merely smelted, not wrought, which will supply the lucky winner with all the iron he will need for five years' time."

The wording of the award converted into English is as follows: "He shall have it (the iron) to use for the course of five circling years. It will not be for want of iron that the herdsmen or ploughmen will go to the town, but he shall have it in store." This is clear proof that an iron currency was known long before the Romans came to Britain, and as the Romans borrowed many of their good points from the Greeks it is not unlikely that they used iron money in the shape of ingots cast like copper. These ingots at Castleshaw would be about three or three and a half inches long, the smaller ones being about seven-eighths of an inch in diameter in the thickest part at the top, and resembling in form, judging from the shape of the mould, the middle finger of a man's hand, only a little more taper in shape. The larger matrix was about one and a half inches wide at the surface of the hearth, and about three and a half inches deep. I am informed by Mr. A. Nicholson, a member of our Society, that a small ingot of iron was found some

years ago in Derbyshire near to an old "working," supposed by some to be British, and that its shape and size would be much like those which were probably turned out from the matrices at Castleshaw. In a paper, entitled "Existing Traces of Mediæval Iron Working in Cleveland," printed in the *Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Journal*, part xxix., 1883, by the Rev. J. C. Atkinson, in a footnote, we are told that "when the farm-house and premises at Furnace Farm, in Great Fryup, were rebuilt, now a good many years ago, it was stated that in removing a portion of the very large cinder hill there extant, an ingot of iron had been found which was marked or stamped with letters or figures."

Anent the primitive clay hearth found at Castleshaw, used for iron, perhaps the following may be of interest, taken from Professor Roscoe's *Treatise on Chemistry*, vol ii., part ii., p. 34: "Little is known respecting the methods employed by the ancients in the manufacture of iron. The slight information which we possess has been collected together by Agricola in his work, 'De Veteribus et Novis Metallis.' The apparatus employed was evidently of a primitive kind, and consisted of a small hearth or furnace, to which was attached a bellows." Judging by a matrix taken out of a hearth at Castleshaw the metal used was iron, no trace of copper being found after chemical analysis. Geologists say that iron is abundant in small quantities throughout this district; raddle, or, as it is locally called, "riddle" or "reddle," being an evidence of its presence. This riddle used to be found along most of our brook courses. It was commonly found in the Rocher Valley, and I myself have found it along the course of the Roman road which came up Well Lane from Wellihole to Hey Chapel, but my opinion is that it was used here in far greater quantities

than could possibly have been found in this district, and that it was imported from a distance, and possibly was a commodity of barter.

If I am asked what the probable commodity was for which it was taken in barter I should answer our native millstones, many of which, if I mistake not, I have seen along the Roman track as far as Carlisle and beyond to Newcastle. Certainly some of them were of the same texture of rock as is found near Castleshaw, and hence I suppose we have one of the neighbouring hills here called Millstone Edge, but this is only a pious opinion. There is also an ancient Bakestone pit near this place which I am told has a history of some five centuries, but whether the Romans used bakestones or not I am not quite certain. Sir John Evans tells us in his inaugural address to the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society in 1883 that the "use of stone, especially for arrow-heads and battle-axes continued through the Bronze Age, and there was no doubt a transitional period at its close when iron was gradually coming into use. For here, as in other countries, bronze was succeeded by the more useful metal iron. From the earliest specimens of iron, and especially from those found at Hallstatt, in Austria, we see that the earlier forms were made in servile imitation of instruments cast in bronze." The iron ingots cast in the matrices found in the hearth at Castleshaw would probably be in imitation of the copper ingots which were at one time the medium of exchange among the Romans, and answered the purpose of money.

Since the above was written the hearth has been bared, but as it was partly broken up with the shovel what is left does not give a fair idea of the dimensions as found at first, which would at least be four feet by three feet, though the shape was irregular.

Under the careful hand of Mr. G. F. Buckley (one of our members), and at his expense, some trenches have been dug, showing the surface of the camp buried in about two feet of soil, distinct traces of pavement have been found, but it is not wise to pronounce yet what these pavements belonged to. The camp ought now to be taken in hand and scientifically treated, when, no doubt, we shall find the hypocaust and the prætorium.

Other Roman finds at Castleshaw are certainly very interesting. Part of an amphora and some potsherds, some of Samian ware, and one or two coins, said to be Roman, along with some broken bricks or tiles, have been turned up; but what is wanted is, that the plan of the camp should be laid bare, same as those of similar camps on Hadrian's Wall. I would suggest that the finds should be kept at "Wood," perhaps the only permanent institution near the place, under the care of a responsible official, and that the public should be admitted to view them under proper regulations.

I trust these suggestions may be approved by our Saddleworth friends, seeing that it would cost them nothing, and the finds would be kept practically on the spot. Our thanks are due to Mr. G. F. Buckley, who has kindly undertaken these excavations, and, I can assure you, has worked at them till he was tired. The total cost has been out of his pocket, but seeing he has succeeded so well I doubt not he feels well requited for his labours.

THE ANCIENT LORDS OF MIDDLETON.

BY JOHN DEAN.

PART II.

THE BARTON FAMILY.

(1) John de Barton, of Fryton, in the parish of Hovingham, Rydale, co. York, married Maud, the ~~second~~ of the daughters and co-heirs of Roger and Agnes de Middleton, and had the manor of Middleton conveyed to him by Agnes de Middleton, his wife's mother, after the death of Roger, her husband, *c.* 1322-3. Previous to this event John had, apparently, resided at Fryton, but afterwards, while retaining possession of his Yorkshire estate, removed to Middleton, which thenceforth became the chief residence of his descendants. He, apparently, died in or before 1330.

(2) Thomas Barton is mentioned in a footnote in Earwaker's *Local Gleanings*, vol. i., p. 23, in which, referring to the arms of the Bartons, we find this statement: "It is a curious fact that in the year 1330 Thomas Barton, of Fryton, co. York, seals with a chevron between three boars' heads couped, in granting an annual rent out of land and tenements in Middleton, co. Lancaster, and

Fritton, co. York, to a certain John Malham, &c."* This apprises us that the grantor of this rent was acting, either as trustee of an heir in his nonage, or in his own right as lord of the manor of Middleton, in 1330, and that John de Barton, the immediate predecessor of this Thomas, or of his ward, was then dead.

(3) John Barton appears to have been the next successor, but of him I only find that he held a knight's fee in Middleton and Mowbray from the Duchy of Lancaster, that he was living in 1369, and had died before the 30th October, 1373.†

(4) He was succeeded by his eldest son, William de Barton, who married, before the 44 Edward III. (1370-71),

urvived

418-19).

ddleton

Page 102, *line* 2, *for* "second" *read* "eldest."

ohn the

crossed

in his

Robert,

son of William de Clyfton; *William de Barton, of Ridale;* Adam del Darn; Henry Fitzhenry, son of Thomas de Alkeryngton; John de Ribelton, of Preston in Amoundernesse; Hugh de Tyldesley; John Redeman; and Adam, son of Adam of Lancaster. He is also mentioned in the inquisition on John de Ainsworth, held at Manchester on the Sunday before the Feast of All Saints, 13 Richard II. (30th October, 1389), as shown by quotation therefrom: "Item dicunt quod Willi'mus

* It would also appear to indicate some earlier connection between this family and the original Bartons of Barton-on-Irwell, whose arms were three boars' heads couped.

† Chet. Soc., vol. xxxvii., p. 197.

‡ Baines, by Croston, vol. i., p. 124.

Barton de Rydale et Radūs filius suis ceperunt exitus de terris in Midilton a die promulgationis utlagarie [*anno* 47 Edward III. (1373)] usque in hunc diem." Here we find that William Barton and (afterwards) Ralph, his son, had been receiving the issues out of the lands of Middleton from the year 1373 up to the date of that inquisition, *i.e.*, 30th October, 1389, in which case it is evident that John Barton, the predecessor of William, must have died before the former date, and, furthermore, that William himself had been succeeded by his son Ralph before 1389. On this point, however, we have direct evidence in the following: "Anno Octavo Regalitatis [1384]. The King and Duke [of Lancaster] for the Duke. Writ of Diem Clausit Extremum, on the death of William Barton."*

(5) Ralph de Barton, born not later than 1352, succeeded his father in 1384. He presented to Middleton rectory on the 4th September, 1386, but the name of the presentee does not appear;† and is supposed to have founded or to have been commemorated by the founding of the chantry on the south side of Middleton Church, which, together with the church and north chantry, that had recently been rebuilt by Cardinal Langley, bishop of Durham (an offshoot of the ancient manorial family of Middleton, and one of the town's most illustrious sons), were consecrated in 1412. Ralph died on the Monday before the Feast of St. John the Baptist, 1398, but for some reason his I.P.M. was not held until the 8 Henry IV. (1406-7),‡ wherein it is declared that he died seized of the manor of "Middleton cum hamlettis

* Baines, by Croston, vol. i., p. 154.
† Raines's *History of the Chantries*.
‡ Chet. Soc., vol. xcv., pp. 86-7.

de Asshworth, Birkehill, Aynesworth, Medowcroft, et Lynalx," &c., and that Richard de Barton, his son and heir, was aged nineteen (in 1406-7), and was then by the gift of the king, dated at Ludlowe 4th August, 1 Henry IV. (1399), under the guardianship of James de Radcliffe. So says the I.P.M., but an earlier date for this grant appears, viz.: "Henry par la grace, &c. John Wakering Chancell' d'un comite Palatyn de Lanc^{r} nous grantesmez a n're l'echin Escuier James de Radcliffe la garde du fiz et heir de Rauf de Barton de Ridall ensemblement oversq: la garde de tous les terres et ten'tz de mesne leir tanq: a son plein age. Don a n're paleys de Westm: le 8 jour le May l'an du n're regne premier" (1399).

There was also a further command from the king at the palace of Westminster, dated 18th May, 3 Henry IV. (1402), that sufficient surety should be obtained for the due render of homage and payment of relief for the tenements and lands in Middleton of the said Richard Barton. There is also an inquisition for proof of age of this Richard, which tells of a baptism at Middleton Church over five hundred years ago, which being, perhaps, the earliest record of such a ceremony in Middleton, is worth mentioning: Ricardus de Barton, 10 Henry IV. (1408-9). "In alia inquisitione 10 Henry IV., probatis statis infra scripti Ricardi Barton qui natus fuit apud Midleton die mercurii prox: ante festum Corpori x$\tilde{p}$i anno 9 Ricardi II. [1386] et baptizatus ecclesia de Midleton. Et Ricardus Mallebisse fuit compater et Matilda Fairfax fuit co$\tilde{m}$ater."

(6) Richard de Barton, a minor at the death of his father, and in wardship until 10 Henry IV. (1408-9), married a lady whose Christian name was Alice. From the emblazonry which appears on the two shields of a certain monument, which will be referred to later, it is probable

that she was a member of the family of Radcliffe of the Tower, a relative, perhaps a daughter, of her husband's guardian. She was the mother of eighteen children, of whom many, if not all, of the females appear to have died young, as in the year 1438 we find Richard making a contract with Thomas de Assheton for the marriage of Margery, daughter of his brother, John de Barton, with Ralph Assheton, a younger half-brother of Thomas, the terms of which would place too great a strain upon his resources to admit of the supposition that he could at that date have had any daughters of his own besides his sons to provide for, and which, as the sequel will show, proved the ruin of his own family.

This contract is dated 15th April, 17 Henry VI. (1438), and it is recited that between Thomas de Assheton, Ralph's elder brother (his father, John, had died in 1428), of the one part, and Richard Barton de Middleton of the other part.* "A marriage to be had between Ralph Assheton and Margery daughter of John Barton and said Richard covenants to settle £100 per annum out of his lands on sd. Margery in fee. Richard Barton is sworn on a Book and the day of marriage to perform it. Witnesses Io. Dockenfield Roger Booth Xfer Hilton."

He must also have been a party to another marriage contract, as will appear from this excerpt: "Richard, son and heir of Richard de Barton, shall marry Margaret, daughter of Sir John Byron, of Clayton, and if she dies, Ellen, another of his daughters."† As a matter of fact, the junior Richard did not marry either of these, but became husband of Alicia, another sister. His name is found in a "List of the Tenants and Freeholders of the

* Raines's MSS., vol. xiv., p. 58.
† *Ibid*, xiv., pp. 75 and 59.

Honor of Clithero,"* A.D. 1443, a connection in which his sons and grandson appear later. He was a trustee in company with his brother, John de Barton, clerk, and his son Richard, of Richard de Bamford, in 25 Henry VI. (1446); and his last public appearance is made known to us in a series of deeds published in Pink's *Lancashire and Cheshire Notes*, part i., p. 52, the first of which reads as follows: "Item a lre [letter] of attornay from Ric bartonne of myddletonne Esquire and James belfild thelder [the elder] to Peter hasted [perhaps Halstead] Chaplen to delyver possessione for theime to Xpofor belfild for terme of his lyffe in certaine landes which they had of the gifte and feofment of the said Xpofer and Raffe belfild his father dated anno vicessimo nono henrici sexti" (1450-1). As we have in the baptism of this lord of the manor the earliest record of the celebration of that rite in Middleton Church, so we have in his monument formerly, but now no longer, to be seen in the same church, one of the oldest records of burial, as the following note taken on the spot no less than three hundred years ago bears witness:—

NOTES FROM MIDDLETON CHURCHE, MADE A.D. 1564 TO 1598, UPON AN ALABLASTR STONE [2 SHIELDS].

(1) Middleton of Middleton and Barton of Fryton, quarterly.
(2) [Argent] a bend engrailed sable [Radcliffe of the Tower].
[Underneath these shields.]
Et p' bono statu Alicia immye' [sic] 3 sons 15 daughts.
[At the side of these two shields is written.]
hic jacet Ric'i Barton armiger et Alicia uxor ei's q'q'dem Ric'us obijt v° die mensis novembris a° dñi 1451.

Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Chesh., n.s., vol. vi. (1892).

John de Barton, brother of this Richard, and father of Margery, who became the wife of Ralph Assheton (and whom so many of our local historians have erroneously

* Farrer's *Clitheroe*, "Rossyngdale," p. 506.

assumed to have been the heiress of her uncle Richard), married Margaret, daughter of Sir Nicholas Byron. He is designated "Clerk" in the deed of Richard de Bamford, but as his name precedes that of the junior Richard de Barton on that document he cannot have been John, the younger brother of the latter; while as being the younger brother of Richard senior, who was baptised in 1386, it is impossible to identify him with the John de Barton who appears as rector of Middleton in 1478, and lived until 1493. Moreover, as a trustee of 1446, he must have been living at the date of his daughter's marriage contract in 1438, and one reason why the uncle, and not the father, of Margery Barton was made a party to that deed is obvious in the stipulation that her settlement of £100 per annum was to be a charge on her uncle's lands *in fee*. This, with the "final swearing on a book and [on] the day of marriage to perform it," may point to a mere craving for good security, but there is, in certain eventualities, a latent power of evil doing in these terms of the covenant which we shall subsequently find was exercised with calamitous results to the descendants of Richard the uncle. We do not learn that he had any brothers besides John or that he had any sisters, and of his large family of eighteen children we have evidence only of the three sons, Richard, William, and John, who survived him.

(7) Richard de Barton succeeded his father in 1451, and, as before mentioned, had to wife Alicia, the daughter of Sir John Byron, of Clayton. He has already come into view, in company with his father and his uncle, as a trustee of Richard de Bamford, and hence past legal age in 1446; but as he is not mentioned in the marriage settlement of his cousin Margery in 1438, we may infer from that circumstance that he was a minor when the

heavy charge of £100 a year was laid upon his prospective inheritance, which would place his birth between 1417 and 1425. We find that he followed the example of his father and other landed gentry who, owing to the great rise in wages which set in at the end of the fourteenth and prevailed throughout the fifteenth centuries, were at this period changing their system of agriculture by an increase in the production of flesh meat and wool, in which the cost for labour was proportionally less than was required for the cultivation of wheat and other cereals, and were leasing extra lands for that purpose in the forest of Rossendale, and he next comes before us in the subjoined excerpts:—

"Ric Barton pro Newhalley in Tottington for the year 29 Sep. 1463, to 29 Sep. 1464," pays to Lord Stanley, as receiver of Clithero, viii. li. (£8).*

"Ric Barton [pays to the same] pro Vaccar Dedewhenclogh, vi. li." (£6).†

"9 Nov. 5 Edward IV. [1465]. To Ric. Barton of Middleton, Arm. and Rad. Barton his son, a messuage &c., with a vaccary called Wolfandelboth for 12 years, rent £6."‡

We also note that he appears on an inquisition on Richard de Worsley, at Clitheroe, 15th July, 4 Edward IV. (1464), accompanied by his brother "Willus de Barton." He died before the 17th February, 1465-6, leaving by wife, Alicia, who survived him, two sons, Richard, his heir, and Ralph; another son, Thomas, having died in his father's lifetime.

Of the two brothers of this Richard, the elder one, William, who has already been noted at Clitheroe in

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* Whitaker, *Hist. Whalley*, vol. i., p. 359.
† *Ibid*, p. 360. ‡ *Ibid*, p. 353.

1464, became co-lessee with his nephew, Ralph de Barton, in the lands which the latter had previously held jointly with his father, as shown by this excerpt: "22 June, 7 Edward IV. [1467]. To Ralph Barton and W. Barton for 12 years, Wolfandenboth Dedequenclogh, the pastures called Lenches, with half of another pasture called Newhalley adjacent, rent £14. 13. 4."*

John de Barton, the younger brother, became rector of Middleton *c.* 1477, and, designated by that title, received from Henry de Holt, of Balderstone, a grant of all his lands called the Kirkholt in Balderston, to which his nephew, Richard, was the first witness, 21 Edward IV. (1481), and he died *c.* 1493.†

(8) Richard de Barton, the son and heir of the preceding Richard, does not appear to have succeeded to his lawful inheritance on the death of his father, between November, 1465, and February, 1465-6, and it is important to know the reason why. That he was not disqualfied by age is clearly evinced by the circumstance of his younger brother Ralph being competent to act as co-lessee with their father in November, 1465, and that he was not debarred by illegitimacy is, as will presently be seen, quite certain. But every authority, except one,‡ who has touched upon this point has entirely ignored the existence of the last two generations of the Bartons, and has assigned the transfer of the manor of Middleton from that family to the Asshetons to a period and a cause which are not simply erroneous in both particulars, but the assertions are made in terms which are generally employed only in stating unquestionable facts, and in view of correcting these errors many particulars of the later

* Whitaker, *Hist. Whalley*, vol. i., p. 353.
† Chet. Soc., vol. xxxvii., pp. 27-8.
‡ Corry, *Hist. Lanc.*, 1825.

Bartons have been adduced which would otherwise have been deemed too trivial for reproduction in this paper. Our earlier writers of local history may not have had the information which is now available, but this disability cannot have existed when the two last editions of Baines were issued, and, as the general view to which I have referred is fairly represented in both these works, I only submit the following: "Sir Ralph Assheton, Knt.," "had the Middleton estates in right of his wife," . . . "Margaret, dau. and heir of John Barton of Middleton, and next of kin and heir to her uncle, Richard Barton, of Fryton, in Rydale, co. York, and of Middleton, co. Lanc.;"* and earlier in the text it is asserted that the manor of Middleton continued in the Barton family "till the year 1438, when it was conveyed by Margery, daughter of John Barton, and heiress of her uncle, Richard Barton, Esq., in marriage to Sir Ralph Assheton, Knt.," &c.† These statements are substantially the same as those in the 1868 edition of Baines, and what measure of acceptance they merit in relation to the asserted heirship of Margery Barton to her uncle Richard will have been seen by the controverting statements already put forward and the credibility of the several authorities who are responsible for them.‡ The actual means by which Sir Ralph acquired possession were not of so simple a character, the first step is quite correctly ascribed to the marriage contract of 1438, but the next and final advance did not follow, by the automatic

* Assheton ped., Baines, by Croston, vol. ii., p. 396.

† *Ibid*, p. 384.

‡ Having myself been formerly misled by these errors, I wish to point out that Margery Barton was neither the next of kin nor the heir to her uncle, and that all she conveyed to her husband was the charge of £100 a year before mentioned.

operation of the law, on the death of his wife's uncle, as witness the following deed: "17 Febr., 5 Edward IV. [1465-6]. This Bill Indented and made between Raufe Asheton Knt, and Dame Margery his wife 1st pt and Alice sometimes the wife of Richard Barton 2 pt recites that sd. Sir Raufe Asheton & Margery have assigned to sd. Alice certain rents in Co. Lanc. for her Dower off fryton in Co York and other rents for her Dower in Middleton."*

We learn from this deed that the husband of Alice, whom we have found in association with his younger son, Ralph, described as "Ric. Barton of Middleton, arm." (which plainly indicates that he was then in possession of the manor), taking a lease of land on the 9th of the preceding November, had died within the three months following, leaving two sons, past maturity, and two brothers, all living. How, then, can Sir Ralph and his wife be empowered to pose as grantors and to enforce the terms of this deed, which ignores the existence of any hereditary heir, and clearly announces the eviction of the Barton family not only from the manor of Middleton, but also from their original heritage of Fryton in Yorkshire? Moreover, it is to be a thorough clearance, and the dower of the widow is to be obliterated from the memory of Fryton and Middleton by the hastening provision of an equivalent rent elsewhere in "Co. Lanc." This eviction and exclusion of the widow's claim from the fief plainly indicates that Sir Ralph at this time purposed establishing his family in permanent possession.

There is only one conceivable explanation of the humiliating position of the Barton family at this juncture, and it is found by going back to the settlement of £100 a

* Raines's MSS., vol. xiv., p. 59.

year on Sir Ralph's wife, charged on the lands *in fee*, and, considering the probability and the possible consequences of these payments having been allowed to fall into arrear, to realise the burden which they would impose on the lord of the manor we must take into account the comparative value of money in those days and in these. I find from a table of salaries paid to public officials of various ranks in this county in the year 1482 that a charge of £100 at that time would be equivalent to an annual payment of £2,000 in these days;* but I gather from Thorold Rogers, who bases his estimate on a wide range of prices,† that the proportion of one to twelve is more correct, which would make the annual charge £1,200. But to convey a better idea of the onerous nature of this annuity to Sir Ralph's wife, I may add that £100 put aside yearly and invested at five per cent—a low rate for the fifteenth century—principal and interest would in twenty-seven years amount to £5,467, which at the proportion of one to twelve is equivalent to a sum of £65,604 of this era; and if these payments had been annually made to Sir Ralph, and by him or by the payers invested as supposed, this latter is the capital sum which, measured by our present standard of values, would have stood to his or to their credit in February, 1465-6, when he and his wife executed the deed assigning "other rents" to the widow of Richard Barton, in order to get rid of the last vestige of a money charge remaining to the Barton family on the fief of their ancient patrimony of Fryton and of Middleton, and this was the measure of his reward and of theirs for his agreeing with the grandfather of the dispossessed heir to marry Margery Barton

* Baines, by Croston, vol. i., p. 54.
† *Work and Wages*, 1884.

in 1438, and I find no evidence that any liability to this inexorable creditor had been incurred by any of the Barton family other than the payments due under this marriage settlement. How much or little of this gross sum was in arrear is not known, but this we know, that to the small farmer who was enabled by the help of his family to provide labour enough for the efficient cultivation of his allotments, to his sons or other farm hands who worked for wages, and to the artisan in town or country, the whole of the fifteenth century was an age of prosperity, wages were excessively high, and the cost of living extremely low. But to the landlord class, whose distant predecessors had commuted the personal services of their tenantry for a money payment, in an age when wages were at the lowest, who now had to pay to their present tenantry many times over the amount which they were receiving from them in the form of rents in lieu of those same services, when the work of the handicraftsmen of every trade was proportionally dear, and the prices of all that could be raised upon the land, either arable or pasture, averaged exceptionally low and were the landowners' only source of income, it was a period of disaster in every case and of complete ruin in many,* and the culminating phase of these adverse conditions happened to coincide approximately with the period in which Sir Ralph's wife lived in wedlock and was a charge on the resources of the Bartons. I have already (p. 109) adduced facts which tend to show that the grantor of this charge was feeling the pressure common to his class in those times, and had resorted to other methods of husbandry to repair the inroads made in his income.

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* *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, J. E. Thorold Rogers, vol. i.

At the time he died (1451) he had been responsible for making these payments about thirteen years, and during the next fourteen years that heavy obligation had fallen on Richard Barton, the cousin of "Dame Margery," who had not been a party to contracting it, and had a family of his own dependent upon him. His co-partnership with his son Ralph in the vaccary of Rossendale seems to have had the double object of adding to his then reduced means and of making some future provision for that younger son; it also incidentally indicates that he had no serious forebodings of the eviction of his eldest son, the heir, and widow, which so speedily followed his own decease.

Upon the third Richard Barton, grandson of the founder of this settlement, the liability to continue the annual payments under it, which from the foregoing statements it is assumed that his father and grandfather had been unable to meet, would now fall, augmented by the interest upon the amount in arrears, and possibly accompanied by a peremptory demand for an immediate payment of the whole sum then owing. Richard was young, inexperienced, and of rural habit; his creditor not long, if at all, past his prime, had consorted with courtiers and men of high distinction in many walks of life; as a youth in the court of a king who was incessantly beset by duns, "a prince whom every one revered, no one consulted, and every one, who could do so, pillaged."* He had seen practised, both by debtor and creditor, all the stratagems and evasions permissible within the limits of the law. In any conflict between such an embarrassed heir and such a creditor, who could fail to forecast the result which has been told? It is no wonder that we

* *Six Centuries of Work and Wages*, J. E. Thorold Rogers, vol. ii., p. 306.

learn very little of the doings of the dispossessed Richard after his ejection. His appearance as a witness to the grant of Henry de Holt to his uncle, the rector of Middleton, in 1481, has previously been noted, and he will once only again come into view, accompanied by his brother Ralph. Before proceeding to this point of events, however, it may be advisable to give more particulars as to the family connections and career of Sir Ralph Assheton, and to draw attention to the extraordinary and intricate relationship at this period existing between the Barton, the Assheton, and the Byron families, in order to make sure that we do not in some of these discover other causes for Sir Ralph's conduct towards the Bartons which are less repugnant to our sense of justice than the one before given.

Sir Ralph Assheton was the youngest son of Sir John Assheton, of Ashton-under-Lyne, by his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir John Byron, of Clayton. He was page of honour to Henry VI., probably through the influence of his half-brother, Sir Thomas Assheton, the alchemist, who was long engaged in pursuits which gave promise of financial salvation to that impecunious and pitiable king previous to his final deposition by Edward IV. After the accession of the house of York, he appears as knight marshall of England, and, in the twelfth and thirteenth of Edward IV. (1472-3), as sheriff of Yorkshire.* From this date we lose trace of him for some ten years, and may use the interval in supplying the few particulars of his family connections before mentioned. The wife of Sir Thomas Assheton (who was guardian of the interests of his half-brother in the marriage contract of 1438) was a Byron; Sir Ralph's mother was a Byron; the mother of

* Baines, by Croston, vol. ii., p. 394.

Margery, his wife, was a Byron, and, lastly, the mother of the two brothers, Richard, the heir, and Ralph Barton, was a Byron. These maternal Byron ladies are all stated to have been of the Byrons of Clayton, but in what degree of relationship they stood to each other and its interlacing effect on the consanguinity of their descendants cannot be shown owing chiefly to the imperfections of the Byron pedigree. But it is certain that no possible bar to succession could be set up as against the brothers of the Richard Barton, who died in 1465-6—William Barton and John Barton, the rector—in respect of these intermarriages, and none against Richard Barton or Ralph Barton, their nephews, which would not in an equal measure apply perhaps to Sir Ralph himself, but certainly to his son, Richard, who had a Byron lady for a grandmother on both sides of his parentage.

Resuming the story of Sir Ralph's progress, we find that he obtained the honourable distinction of knight banneret for his prowess at Hutton Field in Scotland on the 23 Edward IV. (1483), and later in the same year, after the seizure of the throne by the Duke of Gloucester, as Richard III., he was made vice-constable of England, and we are told that his devoted attachment to the house of York was rewarded by Richard III. with the grant of "divers manors and other possessions belonging to the King's rebells and traitors, Sir John Fogge Knt., Geo Browne Knt., and John Gulforde Knt., on the 12th of December 1483."*

We also learn that "the township of Middleton and the principal part of the parish were granted to Sir Randulph Assheton by King Richard III., A.D. 1483"†

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* Baines, by Croston, vol. ii., p. 394, citing Harl. MSS.

† Corry, *Hist. Lanc.*, vol. ii., p. 532, published in 1825.

(this is the authority referred on p. 110, *ante*). I may also mention a reference to this grant, which appeared in the *Manchester City News Notes and Queries*,* as follows: "The town of Middleton and much the greater part of the parish," writes Dr. Aikin, "have long been in the possession of the family of the Asshetons, even previously to the first of Richard III., *anno* 1483, at which time an extraordinary grant passed to Sir Randolph Assheton as lord of the manor of Middleton." Up to this date Sir Ralph had been incompetent to act as lord of the manor; for instance, the presentation of John Barton to the rectory of Middleton, which took place some five years before, must have been made by the outcast heir, Richard Barton. The straits to which King Richard was reduced to find support for his usurpation of the crown, at the time when this grant of the manor was obtained, would render him particularly amenable to the solicitation of such an old follower and doughty companion in arms as Sir Ralph Assheton, who, on the other hand, would well know that the kingly power would be exercised without scruple as to the legality or the consequences of the act, and the deed would doubtless be coeval with those of the 12th December, 1483.

At this point Sir Ralph Assheton stands before us as a man in declining years; his life's game has been played, and he has won heavily; he has the interests of a large family in mind, and his chief desire now is to safeguard his winnings. But at this juncture he sees a storm arising which threatens to engulf all. A long experience in court and camp has brought home to him that the question, Who shall reign over this kingdom, Richard of York or Henry of Lancaster? has not been settled by the

* Vol. vi., p. 209.

usurpation of Richard, but must soon be put to the arbitrament of the sword, and he cannot forecast the result of that final appeal. He had not allowed the misfortunes of his first royal master, Henry VI., to prevent his acceptance of service and honours under Edward IV. and his brother Richard, the enemies and reputed murderers of that unfortunate prince. He would, very likely, then have thrown over, as he afterwards did throw over, the third Richard as readily as he had before abandoned the cause of the sixth Henry and the two sons of the fourth Edward, if that would have enabled him to stick fast to those ill-gotten possessions so very recently confirmed to him and largely increased by royal grant. But the whole kingdom was in commotion, and splitting up into antagonistic sections. Sir Ralph well knew what fate would befall any who had proved false to Richard should the Yorkist party triumph in the impending struggle; and, conversely, should the Lancastrians win, where could the man who had so lately been raised to high office and gorged with the plunder of the adherents of the house of Lancaster, "for his devoted attachment to the house of York," hope to find safety either for life or property? With such antecedents and so encompassed at the Christmas season of 1483-4, there was no safe course to be found for Sir Ralph Assheton, by favour of Richard III., vice-constable of England. But he who had transferred his allegiance from Henry VI. to Edward IV., and in the many changes of fortune of those opposing houses had managed to escape the vengeance of the imperious and implacable Margaret of Anjou, was not quite resourceless at this crisis. He assumed an attitude of neutrality, and made the following adroit move in favour of a son who was untainted by partisanship and under no obligation for past favours to either of the opposing

factions, so that if he himself should fall under also avenging power of the victor in the approaching contest, some portion of his acquisitions might be saved to his descendants: "On the 11 January 1 Richard III. [1483-4] Rafe Assheton Knt., made a lease to Richard Assheton his son of his manor of Myddleton, for twenty years next following the date thereof, and the reversion of all his lands in Myddleton, after the death of Dame Margaret Harecourt, widow, Richard Barton and Rafe Barton, to remain to Richard and his heirs for ever, which lands were sometimes the lands of Richard Barton, father of sd. Richard Barton."*

What object, other than the one pointed out, could this deed serve? In January, 1484, Sir Ralph Assheton must have been close on seventy years old, and with a valid title and safe tenure "his manor of Myddleton" and the "reversion of all his lands in Myddleton" would, in the ordinary course of law and nature, devolve upon his eldest son without the warranty of this lease, and in all likelihood before the end of its term. But the reversion was not to fall in until after the deaths of Dame Harecourt, Richard Barton (the dispossessed heir), and his brother Ralph, one or other of whom, judging from the ages of the respective parties,† must by the law of chances have outlived both the lease and the lessee. It is evident that these life-interests were not new, but pre-existing grants artfully put forward in this deed to exhibit the munificence of the grantor to his debtors in the hope of affording some little protection to Richard Assheton,

* Raines's MSS., vol. xiv., p. 58.

† I am informed, by favour of Mr. C. W. Sutton, that this lady was "Margaret, dau. of Sir John Byron, of Clayton, and wife of Sir Robert Harcourt, K.G., of Stanton Harcourt." Hence she would probably be aunt to the two brothers, Richard and Ralph Barton, and sister to Alice, their mother.

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THE ASSHETON BRASS, MIDDLETON.

UNIV. OF MICH.

the lessee, by implying that any ruthless dealing with the manor would not injure him alone, but would put an end to those charges upon the estate which were then the last resource of the living members of the family of its former owner, "father of sd. Richard Barton."

We may rest assured that Sir Ralph did not owe the ultimate safety of his person and property to such frail devices as are exemplified in this deed, but rather to his natural courage and fertility of resource, strengthened by long use, and sharpened by impending danger. These would prompt him to keep vigilant watch on the movements of the chiefs of the rival factions, of whom some were his neighbours, in particular those of the lord of Knowsley, and to so comport himself as to turn to his advantage events which immediately preceded and followed the defeat of his master, King Richard, on the battlefield of Bosworth in 1485. But the deed contains two very important admissions, as in its concluding sentence (*i.e.*, "which lands were sometimes the lands of Richard Barton, father of sd. Richard Barton"). We have Sir Ralph himself declaring that the first-named Richard, whom I have stated (p. 108, *ante*) succeeded to the manor in 1451, and appears again as "Ric. Barton of Middleton, Arm.," in 1465 (p. 109, *ante*), was "sometimes" owner of the lands of Middleton, and that he was father of the Richard Barton who, with his younger and only living brother and (supposed) sister, appears as holding a life-interest in the manor, which is conclusive as to the legitimacy of the junior Richard before adverted to (pp. 110 and 117, *ante*).

One other point remains to be considered before finally resigning Sir Ralph to the odium inspired by all that has yet been related of his behaviour to the Barton family, and it is this: Is it possible that Richard Barton, who had two

sons living and past their majority before he died, between November, 1465, and the 17th February, 1465-6, obtained deliverance from his financial troubles by alienating his estate? Putting aside the doubtful legality of such an act, this question cannot be answered affirmatively, for, if so, then why the grant of the manor to Sir Ralph by King Richard eighteen years later? (P. 117, *ante*.) And, though this deed was invalid—for it then was and now is a maxim of law that the king can make no grant to the injury of another—yet, so long as King Richard held the crown and Sir Ralph his office of vice-constable of England, no one would have had the temerity to dispute it, and it did, in fact, under these conditions, embolden Sir Ralph to make his first known appearance and to perform his first known act as lord of the manor of Middleton in his grant of the twenty years' lease and reversion of that manor to his eldest son, Richard, and his heirs for ever, as before stated. We may, therefore, assign to this date (1483-4), and not to the year 1438, as hitherto asserted, the accession of the Assheton family to the lordship of the manor. And we may further conclude that this change of lords was not a direct result of the marriage of Sir Ralph to Margery Barton, but was brought about by those indirect consequences of the onerous terms of that union which have been disclosed in this paper, and based on the invalid grant of King Richard in 1483 having been allowed to pass unchallenged.

We learn nothing more of the heir, or of his brother and (supposed) sister (p. 120 *ante*), after this, and what ultimately became of them we can only surmise, probably they sunk to mingle with the commoner stream of human life, in order that those who were better fitted for that venal and turbulent stage of the nation's progress might obtain

more commanding positions; but we cannot dismiss from our sight, without a word of sympathy for their unmerited humiliation, these grandsons of the Richard Barton whose impulsive generosity towards a portionless niece, stimulated perhaps by the glamour of her courtly suitor from the king's palace and the great city, had so heavily burdened himself and his successors by the marriage settlement of 1438.

We only know with certainty of one instance in which Sir Ralph Assheton appears in the character of a husband. It is in February, 1465-6, when he and his wife are seen acting in unison in disencumbering the fief of Fryton and Middleton of the dower of Alice, the widow of Richard Barton, after the eviction of her sons and herself from those manors (pp. 112-13, *ante*). If we credit "Dame Margery" with the ordinary qualities of her social status and sex, we must feel convinced that she was a most reluctant accomplice in this flagitious act, and indeed we cannot acquit her of all blame for it, even if done under duress. At this time her position was as follows: She had been for twenty-seven years the wife of a man who had brought into the connection nothing of value but his person and his prospects, who had made no settlement upon her, but, on the contrary, had stipulated that she should bring with her an income of £100 a year, not from her father, whose only possessions were personal and of small account, but from her uncle, the lord of the manors of Fryton and of Middleton, and made a charge upon his lands *in fee*. She must long before this have come to know, with humiliating certainty and self-reproach, that it was not the attractions of her person, but this sordid endowment, which had rendered her acceptable to her suitor, and she, who in the levity of youth had permitted an indulgent uncle to humour her

fancy by bribing the cupidity of her lover, now, in her riper years, submits to be made her husband's accomplice in ruining the grandsons of that uncle for the exaltation of her own sons, only because the wages of her husband's consent to their marriage, so hurtful to true womanly pride, had been allowed, by the pressure of adverse circumstances and perhaps by the plausible connivance of the creditor, to fall into irredeemable arrears.

The foregoing particulars, inasmuch as they relate to the career of Sir Ralph Assheton, would but inadequately portray the faulty side of his character if not supplemented by a brief notice of certain other proceedings of his which rendered him obnoxious in the neighbourhood of his own paternal home, and caused him to be then and ever since remembered with repugnance as the "Black Knight of Ashton-under-Lyne." There can be no doubt of this identification, for the well-known doggerel names the personage from whom the rhymster prays to be saved, "Sir Rauffe of Aston," and there is no other Ralph to be found among the members of any generation of the Asshetons of Ashton-under-Lyne. Neither was there among the Asshetons, of Middleton, a Ralph entitled to the prefix "Sir" for near upon one hundred and fifty years after the death of this, the first, Sir Ralph Assheton of Middleton.

The custom of "Riding the Black Lad" has been so often and fully described by others as to render unnecessary further reference to the spectacular part of it, but it may be of service to consider and enlarge upon the circumstances which have hitherto been advanced in explanation of its origin.

We have seen (p. 117, *ante*) that Sir Ralph was made vice-constable of England in 1483, and one authority*

* Baines, by Croston, vol. ii., p. 394.

(the latest) tells us "it is probable that it was while in the exercise of the odious and unconstitutional functions awarded to him by the tyrant Richard, and not in the time of Henry VI., that he became obnoxious," which amounts to this—that while in the exercise of functions which were odious and unconstitutional, but also equally operative and reprehensible in every part of England, he became obnoxious only in the neighbourhood of his native place, but in that limited district, and within the two years' reign of Richard III., he managed to earn for himself a reputation so evil that it has been remembered against him from the fifteenth down to the present century, which is simply incredible. It is also said that traditions of crimes have been handed down against him which seem to point to an exercise of the "droit de seigneur." This charge cannot be brought home to Sir Ralph, for he never possessed such a "right" as this which he is supposed to have exercised in Ashton, either in that or any other manor, until he got the grant of Middleton in 1483, when he would be verging on seventy and would have few years remaining to him in which to indulge in such assumed criminality, even in the latter township, in which, it is to be pointed out, nothing of the kind has ever been alleged against him.

Another authority* refers the cause of his intense unpopularity to his conduct in the capacity of guld rider over the Ashton estate, an office or privilege conferred on him by his father some time before his marriage. At this period the lands devoted to corn growing in the district of Ashton-under-Lyne had become infested with a certain gross-feeding, prolific, and rampant weed called gool, or

* *Illustrations of the Customs of a Manor in the North of England*, by Dr. Hibbert-Ware.

guld, and now known as the corn marigold, which had wrought so much mischief by devouring the nutriment of the grain crops, as well as overwhelming and screening them from the influence of the sun by its exuberant growth, that it had become absolutely necessary to exterminate the pest. Moreover, the wind was an impartial all-round distributor of its seed, hence the neglect of one was a matter of common concern to all, and justice demanded that the evil should be ended by united effort, which was therefore made obligatory upon every one engaged in the cultivation of the land by a manorial regulation to which compliance was enforced by the guld rider, and this official, accompanied by a suitable retinue, at a certain season in every year was commissioned to ride through the fields of growing corn in order to ascertain their state in respect of this weed, and, in case of negligence in clearing it out on the part of any of the tenants or other responsible persons, to inflict fines, or such other punishments of a more brutal or degrading character as were considered in those days appropriate to their means, status, or sex, upon every one whom he adjudged to have been remiss, and it is presumed that Sir Ralph performed these functions with rigorous if not criminal severity.

There are many elements of probability in this hypothesis. These excesses would be committed either in person or by deputy during a long period, possibly for near upon half a century. They would, directly or indirectly, affect almost every member of the industrial community. They were committed in the locality where the custom of retaliating by a mockery of them was set up and maintained, and this would have been impossible without the concurrence of the lords of the manor. It may well have happened that Sir Ralph's proceedings in

the office of guld rider were not altogether approved during the lifetime of his elder half-brother, Sir Thomas Assheton, but as the former held his office for life there was no remedy. After the death of Sir Thomas—who must have pre-deceased Sir Ralph by many years—and the succession of his son, and later (1484) of his grandson, it is quite conceivable that to these successive and later lords of Ashton the spectacle of so distant a relative as the half-brother of their late father or late grandfather, as might happen, coming over from Middleton with a posse of his retainers in full parade to ride unquestioned through the cornfields of Ashton, and to punish by fine or in more degrading ways the tenants and servants of the manor, while they (their lords) might stand by helpless spectators of the proceedings or witnesses of the punishments, must have been as galling to the lords as to those of their people who were made to suffer in pocket or in person, and fully accounts for the non-interference of the successive lords of Ashton with a custom which, from a cursory view, might be regarded by outsiders as a slight upon the family name. But would there be no remonstrance from the descendants of Sir Ralph, the new lords of Middleton? probably not; certainly none that was ever heeded. We cannot suppose that his tenants and the people of that township had received any more kindly usage from Sir Ralph or that they would entertain any greater respect for his memory than their neighbours of Ashton. The underhand means by which he acquired the lordship of Middleton have been overlooked in this age, owing, perhaps, to the more agreeable occupation of setting forth the merits of his descendants, but the people of his own time and district would have better reason for bearing in mind his own doings.

I have already pointed out that Richard Barton with his brother Ralph and a supposed sister were living in 1483-4, and, considering their ages, with every prospect of continuing to live through many succeeding years in the neighbourhcod of Middleton, among relatives and friends, who would unitedly possess considerable social influence, and who could not be expected to allow so considerable a transfer of property and loss of local eminence, in which some of them were interested by consanguinity, to pass without comment or to be speedily forgotten. The Byrons of Clayton, also, alike related by blood both to the Asshetons and the Bartons, cannot have witnessed the rise of one of these families upon the ruin of the other without expostulation. But, in particular, there was the rector of Middleton—a younger son of that misguided lord of the manor, whose reckless liberality had sown the seed of this calamity—at this period (1483-4) the oldest living member of the Barton family, and long afterwards in evidence. The door of every habitation about Middleton, from the great hall to the humble cottage, ever open to welcome the honoured and familiar form of "the Rector," an offshoot of the old manorial family, a lifelong neighbour, a pastor among his own flock: whose word could stand against his? In some, perhaps many, of these dwellings the tale of the wrongs of his younger relatives would be told by himself in such fitting language as a long practice of his profession would enable him to command. In others the story would be repeated, possibly with additions. In all it would fall upon the ears of willing listeners, only to be heard with respectful commiseration, and accepted with abiding faith. Such a story, so accredited, spreading far and wide, among high and low, would soon reach the neighbourhood of Ashton, where

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eldest dau. and coheir of Roger and Agnes de Middleton,
band, and living later than 1339; supposed original of
uilder of the north aisle in Middleton Church.

BARTON impa

Ermine on a
annulets or, fo
paly of six a
lliam de Radcliffe; survived her husband,
Mid to be living 6 Henry V. (1418-9).

of Middleton 4th=
or to have been
d 22 Richard II.

(6) RICHARDE BARTON, appears with his brother= Margaret, dau. of Sir
undhard, and his nephew Richard, as a Nicholas Byron.
corstee of Richard de Bamford, and is styled
yoderk," 25 Henry VI. (1446).
Cli

(7) RICHARD with his
his fathtion held
de Bam with his
son Ral pastures,
&c., wi
Novemt
17th Fet

JOHN DE BARTON, received a grant of lands
from Henry de Holt, of Balderston, 21
Edward IV. (1481); rector of Middleton
from *c.* 1477 until his death *c.* 1493.

itly with his
of Sir Ralph
ssee with his
isture, &c., in

THOMAS, died *v.p.*

Y DE BARTON, married
38; named on deed of
, then living.

II.

it would embitter the resentment before caused by the severity of the proceedings referred to by Dr. Hibbert-Ware. Thus favoured by the well-known, though perhaps in some cases unavowed, sympathy of the relatives and acquaintances of the injured family in Middleton, in Ashton, and in Clayton, and abetted or in no way discountenanced by their manorial lords, the more open demonstrations of the tenantry and the general populace of Ashton, in derisive mimicry of the defunct tyrant, "The Black Knight," were left to take firm root, and to flourish in future undisturbed except by the mollifying and obliterating influences of time.

Any pedigree that I could give of the Asshetons, of Middleton, beyond the corrections which have been put forward in previous pages of this paper in respect of Sir Ralph and his wife, would be a mere repetition of that given by Baines,* in which it appears that they were the father and mother of six sons and four daughters, and that Sir Ralph was succeeded by his eldest son Richard, the lessee of January, 1483-4. But there is a brass in Middleton Church which is supposed to represent the first Assheton, of Middleton, on which are portrayed a knight and lady, with seven sons and six daughters at their feet, and this discrepancy between the ordinary and the pictorial records can only be reconciled by assuming that there is a defect in the pedigree, or an error in identifying the brass with Sir Ralph Assheton, for we cannot call in question the facts of the ancient engraver. To uphold the supposed identity we have a brass without either name or date on which are depicted a knight in plate-armour, and a lady whose headdress is of the style known

* Baines, by Croston, v. ii., pp. 396-8.

as "dog kennel." Both the armour and the dress are of the period of the fifteenth century, which corresponds with Sir Ralph's period, and the arms on the shield are those of Assheton on the first and fourth quarters, while the second quarter has the fesse and three annulets of the Bartons, but the third quarter has been effaced. It will be noticed that the arms are quarterly, not impaled, and this circumstance has been advanced by some authorities on heraldry as refuting the supposed identification; but by others this objection is not considered valid because it ignores the changes which from time to time have occurred in the usages and rules of heraldry in relation to these particular forms of emblazonry.* But perhaps a more direct and reliable way to get at the facts would be to bestow more consideration on those details of the memorial in which there are no uncertainties; for instance, the arms and dress, which would be of the fashion prevailing about the period of their sepulture, assure us: (1) That a member of one of the Assheton families, who died in the honour of knighthood, married a lady of the house of the Bartons of Fryton and Middleton; (2) that this husband and wife died in or about the fifteenth century; (3) another detail tells us that they had a family of seven sons and six daughters, and (4) the situation and character of the memorial affirm that both husband and wife were buried at Middleton. Now we are well certified of the union of Ralph Assheton, who was knighted before his death, and Margery Barton, of the Bartons of Fryton and Middleton,

* A footnote in Gregson's *Fragments*, p. 96, says: "From the time of Edward III. to that of Henry VII. it was the frequent practice of the gentry to quarter the wife's arms, and if she were of greater dignity of family to place her arms on the first and fourth quarters. This sort of quartering was not esteemed and was therefore discontinued."

in the fifteenth century, which accords with details (1) and (2), as they were married in 1438, Sir Ralph was certainly, and his wife probably, living in 1485, and we may safely assume that both died before the end of the century. There can be no doubt, although we have no voucher for the occurrence, that both husband and wife were buried at Middleton, which agrees with detail (4), and we have only to face the discrepancy as to the number of their children, which, on the supposition that some died very young, we may reasonably attribute to a defect in the records available to the compiler of the pedigree. In this hypothesis as to the identity of the knight and lady of the brass we have every fact of time and circumstance in full accord with its story, excepting in one particular, which has just been shown to be of little moment. What have we to set up against it? Absolutely nothing. We have no facts to go upon and no probabilities to speculate about, as I will endeavour to show. Take the case of the lady. The Barton family first came to Middleton *c.* 1322, which is an earlier date than the fashion of the dress in which the lady is depicted on the brass. Can we find, between *c.* 1322 and 1438, an instance of any lady of that family marrying with one of the Assheton family entitled to bear the arms which appear on the brass, who held, or before his death acquired, the rank of knighthood? Again; did any lady of the Bartons of Middleton, excepting Margery Barton, intermarry with any member of any of the Assheton families, excepting Ralph Assheton, between 1438 and the assumption of the lordship of the manor of Middleton by the husband of Margery, then Sir Ralph, in 1483-4? And, lastly, is it possible that any one entitled to bear the arms of the Asshetons, and who died in the order of knighthood, married a lady of the Bartons of Middleton, if any were

in being, after that family had been ousted from the manor in 1483-4? As there is not a scrap of evidence to be found in support of an affirmative answer to any of these primary questions, the minor ones as to the number of children and the place of interment may remain unasked; and in conformity with these statements, which tell as strongly in favour of the supposed identity, as they are prohibitive of any other, we may fully acquiesce in the saying of a former writer,* that "no inscription was wanted to prove this to be the brass of Sir Ralph Assheton and Margaret Barton."

I had purposed to conclude this paper with a brief summary of the character of Sir Ralph Assheton, but considering that he already stands before us quite fully confessed of all that we know to his prejudice by what has gone before, all that is now required to complete his portraiture and to do full justice to him is that I should call attention to the adverse influences of his early training in the court of Henry VI., and the experience of his later manhood in that of Edward IV., than which no other surroundings that we can conceive of would more surely inflame all that was evil and stifle all that was good in his nature, and to submit his claim for such palliation of his wrongdoing as these inept associations may be considered to afford. We find nothing against him as a son. As a father he attended to the welfare of his family, and, as we have seen, could spare thought to plan for the succession of his son at a time when there was no safety for his own life.

He was an intrepid soldier and an able commander. A man of industrious and energetic habit. But also a man without fear in the present life or dread of a future

* The editor of "Iter Lancastrense" (Chet. Soc. Ser.).

for he did not, like many others of his kind, succumb at the end to the terrors of the church and disgorge a part of his plunder into its coffers in return for a promised smooth passage over the bar "when he put out to sea," but went forth like a bold navigator to face the surf and the "moaning" with all his contraband cargo on board.

PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, January 28th, 1898.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE annual meeting was held in the Chetham Library, Manchester, Lieut.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A., presiding.

The annual report was read by the Hon. Secretary, and the financial statement by the Hon. Treasurer, and both were adopted.

The election for Council then took place, with the following result:—

President.

Mr. J. HOLME NICHOLSON, M.A.

Vice-Presidents.

Mr. WM. E. A. AXON.
Professor W. BOYD DAWKINS, M.A., F.R.S.
Lieut.-Col. FISHWICK, F.S.A.
Rev. E. F. LETTS, M.A.
Dr. F. RENAUD, F.S.A.
Mr. CHAS. W. SUTTON.

Of the Council.

Mr. J. D. ANDREW.
Mr. SAMUEL ANDREW.
Mr. C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.
Mr. F. A. BROMWICH.
Mr. W. S. CHURCHILL.
Mr. ALFRED DARBYSHIRE, F.S.A.
Mr. GILBERT J. FRENCH.
Mr. WILLIAM HARRISON.
Mr. NATHAN HEYWOOD.
Mr. D. F. HOWORTH, F.S.A. (Scot.).
Rev. H. A. HUDSON, M.A.
Mr. T. CANN HUGHES, M.A.
Mr. Councillor FLETCHER MOSS.
Mr. A. NICHOLSON.
Mr. GEORGE PEARSON.

Treasurer: Mr. THOMAS LETHERBROW.

Honorary Secretary: Mr. GEORGE C. YATES, F.S.A.

Friday, February 4th, 1898.

The monthly meeting was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A., President, in the chair, who gave a short address.

Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A., exhibited a Roman spear-head of iron found at Castle Field, Manchester.

Mr. R. D. Darbishire, F.S.A., exhibited photographs of beautifully-made spear-heads of glass from West Australia, and these Mr. Yates described.

Mr. J. J. Phelps exhibited an earthenware posset cup found in an old well (which had been filled up and built over) during recent excavations on the site of the old Deanery in Deansgate, Manchester. The decoration of the cup was of interest, being an example of old English marbling produced by means of a comb on coloured clays and afterwards lead glazed. This kind of pottery was called combed-ware. He also exhibited some old clay tobacco pipes found in the same place.

Mr. Yates exhibited a photograph, recently taken, of the exterior of the old Deanery, Deansgate, Manchester.

Mr. Samuel Andrew exhibited a Roman bronze coin of Marcus Aurelius, and also a silver penny of Edward II., coined at Canterbury, found in Oldham.

Mr. Thomas Letherbrow exhibited a bit of barbaric splendour in the shape of a bracelet made of fine gold and precious stones, some like rubies, others of a deep translucent green. He said it came from the East, and was of Moorish design; but the brain which conceived and the hand which executed it had for hundreds of years been

> Blown about the desert dust,
> Or sealed within the iron hills.

It had decorated, no doubt, many a dusky queen, and might have been worn by Zenobia, of Palmyra, or

Cleopatra, when she met her Antony. It would be most interesting to the ladies of the Society, and to them he passed it through the hands of the President.

Mr. J. Dean read the paper of the evening, upon the Medieval Lords of Middleton, and the Barton family. (See p. 102.)

Friday, March 4th, 1898.

The monthly meeting was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. Charles W. Sutton presiding.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. C. J. H. Gradisky, Victoria Park; Robert Hamnett, Glossop; and J. S. Slinger, Lancaster.

Mr. William T. Foxlee exhibited a stone axe-head found by him in New South Wales, and Mr. Yates exhibited a similar axe mounted by native Australians.

Mr. William Bowden exhibited a bronze medal of Francis Henry, earl of Bridgwater.

Dr. Renaud, F.S.A., showed an old rushlight holder and case. Mr. Yates, in describing these, said: There are still living many people who can recall the time when the rushlight was in regular use. Readers of *Pickwick* may remember an illustration in the early editions showing Mr. Pickwick on the memorable occasion when he strayed into the wrong bedroom, when just such another holder for a rushlight was in use as the one exhibited by Dr. Renaud. The light itself consisted, literally, of a rush dipped in tallow, and the holder was of perforated sheet-iron. A second form of holder was shown by Mr. Schwabe, which has a protecting shield, but is merely a rod of iron in a block of wood, with a grip for the rushlight and a socket for the candle. The Rev. H. Dowsett, rector of Holcombe, sent for exhibition photographs of Pilgrims' Cross, Holcombe Moor,

and sketches of the old doorway and inscription at the Great House, Musbury.

Mr. Yates read a communication from Lymm, in reference to the proposed restoration of the ancient cross there, urging the Society to use its influence in preventing its being entirely spoilt.

Mr. Henry Taylor sent a paper (which was read, in his absence, by the Rev. E. F. Letts) upon the "Ancient Crosses of Lancashire." (See p. 39.)

In the course of discussion, Mr. W. Bowden said that when the Ship Canal was in course of construction the shaft of a cross, distinctly of Saxon origin, was found in the neighbourhood of Eccles. He endeavoured, with the aid of Mr. Bourke, the then resident engineer of that section of the canal, and Sir W. H. Bailey, to get it placed in Eccles Church, which he conceived to be the proper resting place for such "finds," but he was unsuccessful. It was now at Owens College, and he was not without hope still of succeeding in getting it removed to Eccles.

Friday, April 1st, 1898.

The monthly meeting was held in the schoolroom of Chetham's College, the President (Mr. J. Holme Nicholson) in the chair.

The main business was to hear an address by Mr. Charles Roeder, who had been making observations on the site of the Roman station in Deansgate, on "Recent Investigations on Roman Manchester." By means of maps, plans, and photographs Mr. Roeder illustrated an exhaustive paper, and indicated many points where he carried considerably further the information gained by former investigators. He mentioned that, besides the discoveries on the station site, there had been a few of

the usual Roman relics found in the digging for the foundation of Gratrix's new premises in Quay Street, on the site of John Byrom's old house. He thought Quay Street might be taken as the northern limit of the Roman town. There were now scarcely any visible relics left in Deansgate of the Roman period. The only record now above ground consisted in a piece of Roman masonry inside the former *castrum* and now occupied by Southern and Wheeldon's timber-yard. Its position seemed to establish it as the prætorium. Mr. Roeder, dealing with the negative results of the investigations, observed that he could not record the discovery of any altars, inscriptions, or sculpture. He had not found any evidence that the Romans in Manchester indulged in the luxury of eating oysters, as he had not come across shells such as had been discovered at Chester and elsewhere. No doubt the station was too far from the sea. He had found evidence that Mancunium had its local potters and iron-smelters. The recent excavations, he considered, had added not a little to their knowledge, but what he had obtained were mere scrapings in comparison with what might have resulted from a careful watching of former excavations such as those involved in connection with the Cheshire Lines extensions. He had been surprised how many objects he had met with in the little area he had studied. They would now know much better where to look for such objects in any further demolition of property in the city. Mr. Roeder, who was heartily thanked for his paper, exhibited the objects discovered, consisting chiefly of pottery, and including specimens of land shells, mosses, and other plant remains.*

* The publication of Mr. Roeder's paper, in which will be embodied his more recent researches concerning Roman Manchester in Deansgate and Hanging Ditch, is deferred until next year.

Mr. George Esdaile sent several interesting exhibits found at Castlefield, viz., a hammer-stone and barbed flint arrow-head found in 1845, also seven specimens of Roman pottery.

Mr. Yates also exhibited Roman pottery and a small hand quern from Knot Mill.

Mr. S. Andrew said that flint flakes and scrapers had been discovered at Brown Edge and Quick Edge by Mr. Seth Radcliffe, of Mossley. Brown Edge was used as a station by the Ordnance Survey some years ago, and is in Lancashire. Quick Edge is just over the county boundary on the Yorkshire side. Mr. George Marsden, of Marsden, has recently discovered flint flakes in quantity at West Nab.

Mr. R. Hamnett exhibited a Roman brick, inscribed DRAIVI, and specimens of Roman cement from Melandra Castle, also a silver denarius of the Emperor Nerva found near Hadfield.

Saturday, May 14th, 1898.

SHREWSBURY.

Thirty-five members of the Society visited Shrewsbury under the leadership of Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A., in order to inspect the interesting exhibition of Shropshire antiquities organised by the members of the Shropshire Archæological Society. This exhibition contained some excellent local portraits, old engravings, stone implements, Roman relics from Uriconium, coins, corporation regalia, and church plate. The lecturer for the day was Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., and the subject chosen was corporation and church plate, which he illustrated with many valuable specimens.

The members visited St. Mary's Church, which was

described by the Rev. Thomas Auden, F.S.A. The date of its foundation is unknown, but it was certainly in early Saxon times; tradition ascribes it to King Edgar about the year 980. It was a Royal Peculiar, and retained its privileges as such up to modern times. It was also collegiate, and on the suppression of such foundations the endowments of the college were largely appropriated by Edward VI., and afterwards by Elizabeth, to the new grammar school. The architecture is of peculiar interest. It embraces specimens of every style of English architecture, from Norman onwards. The nave at once attracts notice from the combination of early English pillars with semi-circular arches. The north aisle was partly rebuilt at a very unusual time for church building, namely, during the Commonwealth, but fortunately those who did the work were content to follow the old lines. The church contains a fine Early Perpendicular font, and a tomb surmounted by the effigy of a cross-legged knight, probably one of the Leybourne family, who were lords of Berwick, which lay within the parish. A more recent monument commemorates the exploits of Admiral Benbow, who was born in the house which is now St. Mary's Vicarage, and ran away to sea while yet a boy. He afterwards rose to be vice-admiral of the fleet, and died of wounds received in action in 1702.

The special glory of St. Mary's, however, is its stained glass. The Jesse window is a magnificent specimen, the greater part being English glass of the middle of the fourteenth century. The window on the north side of the chancel is descriptive of scenes from the life of St. Bernard, and has been ascribed to Albert Dürer. It was brought from Germany, where it originally adorned the abbey of Altenburg. The spire, which rises out of the tower with unusual elegance, was the cause in 1894 of a

great catastrophe. The upper portion, which was under repair at the time, fell during a heavy gale, destroying the fine Perpendicular roof of the nave, and doing other damage. It occurred on a Sunday evening, but fortunately all the congregation had left.

The members then proceeded to the Abbey Church. Almost the whole of the domestic buildings of the monastery have perished, and the present street passes over their site, but one interesting fragment remains in the shape of the pulpit of the refectory. This was so situated that one side looked into the outer court of the monastery, but it was open on the other to the refectory, and its use was for the monk appointed to read to the brethren during meals. It is of early fourteenth-century work. A considerable portion of the Abbey Church is Perpendicular, notably the west window. On entering one could not but be struck with the massive Norman pillars and arches of the older portion. At the dissolution of the monasteries it met with the usual bad treatment, and only escaped entire destruction by the fact that it was a parochial as well as a monastic church for, fortunately, when Roger Montgomery founded his abbey of St. Peter and St. Paul, the parochial rites of the little wooden church which previously occupied the site were not destroyed, and as late as the summer of 1896 an interesting memorial of this pre-Norman period was discovered. In laying a new sewer along the street, the workmen came upon two interments in stone cists, which dated back to Saxon times. The church has undergone several restorations. Recently, by the munificence of an anonymous donor, a chancel has been added worthy of the rest of the building. The church contains a number of interesting monuments which must have come from other churches.

The members went next to the old market hall, built in 1596, and near it is a statue of Richard, duke of York, father of Edward IV., also Marochetti's statue of Lord Clive, the Shropshire hero. From here the party proceeded to the Quarry, passing many interesting old buildings, and visiting St. Chad's Church, in which is a beautiful stained-glass window. The Quarry is the park of the town, and its beauty is universally acknowledged, its only rival being perhaps the "Backs" of the Colleges at Cambridge. At the bottom of the park across the river are the buildings of Shrewsbury School.

Saturday, May 28th, to Monday, June 6th, 1898.

A representative body of members of the Society spent Whitsuntide in visiting certain old Belgian cities, under the guidance of the Rev. E. F. Letts, M.A., and Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A. Starting from Manchester, May 28th, they crossed the channel from Dover to Ostend, and proceeded to Brussels, where Sunday and part of Monday were spent in visiting the churches and museums. Waterloo and Hougomont were also seen. On Tuesday Antwerp was reached, and its objects of antiquarian and artistic interest inspected. Ghent was reached on Wednesday and Bruges on Thursday. Friday was spent at Ostend, and on Saturday most of the members crossed over to Dover, and thence went to Canterbury, where they stayed until Monday. The Secretary has furnished an interesting account of this most delightful and instructive excursion, but space will not permit of its insertion.

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From a Drawing by S. J. Elyard.

Monday, June 13th, 1898.

VISIT TO WARDLEY HALL.

A large party of the members visited Wardley Hall, under the leadership of Mr. G. C. Yates, F.S.A.

This most interesting old hall, as Mr. Yates explained, which has recently been carefully restored, was originally part of the inheritance of the Worsleys, of Worsley. A peculiar interest has long been attached to the house on account of a human skull being kept there, as regards which there are several traditions. It seems, however, that the true story is, that the skull is that of a Benedictine monk, Dom Edward Ambrose Barlow, called Father Ambrose, fourth son of Sir Alexander Barlow, K.T., of Barlow Hall, near Manchester. He was born there in 1585. About 1617 he devoted his services almost exclusively to the southern parts of Lancashire, ministering chiefly in the secret chapels at the halls at Wardley, Worsley, and Morleys, the latter being the seat of the Tyldesleys. On Easter Sunday, April 25th, 1641, he was preaching to his congregation in the domestic chapel at Morleys' Hall, when the house was besieged by "a neighbouring minister" at the head of a fanatical mob. The priest was arrested, sent to Lancaster, and condemned to death. On September 10th the martyr was drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution at Lancaster, and there hanged, cut down, butchered, and his quarters parboiled in the tar-cauldron. His head was secured by Mr. Francis Downes and reverently preserved in his mansion at Wardley. There it remains to this day, an object of wonder, and a speaking illustration of times now happily changed. It is about twenty years since Wardley Hall was last occupied, excepting only the portion now used

as stables, which had been made into three cottages. In 1894 it was decided to restore the house, with a view to it being used by one of the principal officials of the Bridgewater Trustees, and, thanks to the interest taken in the matter by the Earl of Ellesmere, the proprietor of Wardley, no pains have been spared to carry out the restoration in as perfect a manner as possible. When the work was commenced the only two living rooms were those which are now designated the drawing-room and the dining-room. The principal entrance, such as it was, was between the main staircase and the kitchen. The present lower hall was a washhouse, the smoking-room a place for firewood and sundry rubbish, and its upper part a dovecote; the cloakroom was a coalhole. As the work of restoration proceeded, it became apparent that there was much more of interest in the house than was at first supposed. In the upper hall the old arch is reinstated, after having been repaired, the same stones being used, but in the lower hall the stones had been so much damaged that a new arch was necessary. In the drawing-room, too, there is an old stone arch, but it is entirely past restoration. In the room over the pantry there was found some old oak panelling, lathed and plastered over, and above this some ornamental plaster work. This panelling has been repaired and replaced at the end of the upper hall, and it is proposed to attempt to restore the plaster-work and place it again above the panelling. The restoration, though a costly matter, has resulted in saving from ruin one of the most interesting old houses in Lancashire, and, moreover, in making it as quaint and comfortable a home as could be wished for.*

* Previous visits are recorded in vol. i., pp. 31, 100, and vol. vi., p. 201.

Saturday, June 18th, 1898.

NEW GUINEA MEETING.

The members of the Society met at Owens College, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A., in the chair, supported by Professor Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S.

There was an excellent collection of stone implements, mounted and unmounted, shell ornaments, dresses, clubs, and other interesting objects from New Guinea, exhibited by Messrs. Charles Heape, Rochdale; Ben H. Mullen, Peel Park Museum; W. D. Webster, Bicester; and Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A.

Mr. Yates opened the proceedings with some account of New Guinea, the latest addition to our great colonial empire. This is the largest island in the world, counting Australia as a fifth continent. It is over one thousand four hundred miles long, four hundred and ninety miles broad, and contains two hundred thousand square miles. It is separated from Australia by Torres Strait, about sixty miles wide, and probably at one time formed part of Australia. The natives are numerous, and on the whole fairly peaceable, but in some parts they are not to be trusted; their latent capacity for bloodshed is strong, and with difficulty restrained. The stone implements obtained from New Guinea are exceedingly interesting and useful, as they supply us with a knowledge of prehistoric man otherwise unattainable. Some of them it is difficult to distinguish from those of the Neolithic period in Europe; and as we get them hafted into wooden handles we can see them in actual form for use. Mr. Yates described the way stone hatchets were made in New Guinea, and explained the different modes of hafting them.

Dr. Colley March, F.S.A., contributed a paper on New Guinea ornaments, which was read in his absence by Mr. Tallent-Bateman. New Guinea, he said, is regarded as an excellent area for the study of primitive or indigenous forms of decorative art. The productions of that country are well illustrated in the Ethnographical Album of Messrs. Edge-Partington and Charles Heape, and in the valuable and instructive Memoir contributed to the Royal Irish Academy by Professor A. Haddon. Dr. March divided the country into five districts, each of which possesses ornamental features of its own. The specimens on the table illustrated his remarks.

Mr. Ben H. Mullen described several of the chief objects on the table, amongst them being a bamboo decapitating knife. It has a number of notches on it, and these indicate the number of heads that have been cut off. D'Alberti says: "A native described to us most vividly how easy it is to cut a man's head off with these bamboo knives, what a slight matter it is to sever it from the shoulders with a mere turn of the operator's wrist. The native himself had cut off thirty-three heads in this manner, and to make his words good he took out of his bag a collection of pieces of wood and old tips of arrows, which he arranged before us in a row. Every one of these represented to us a murder, to him a deed of valour."

Professor Boyd Dawkins described the collection of New Guinea curiosities on the tables as probably the best ever got together in the North of England, and regretted that it could not be kept open for a little time so that the public could have a chance of seeing it. Amongst the most interesting things to him were the collection exhibited by Mr. W. D. Webster, which consisted of bone daggers, strings of shells similar to

Wampun, and the skulls from the Fly River. These skulls are covered by a sort of half mask representing a face, which appears made of a resinous wax, and is adorned with red seeds and shells. The eyes and nostrils are formed of shells. The natives venerate their dead, and preserve them by embalming and dessication. They do not always preserve the whole body, but sometimes only the head.

Saturday, July 9th, 1898.

The members of the Society visited Broadbottom, under the direction of Mr. Robert Hamnett, of Glossop. Broadbottom Hall was visited, and Mr. George H. Bostock, the owner, explained the points of interest in the building, which was re-erected in 1680 by a member of the Whoolley family. In 1688 it passed to the Bostocks, an ancient Cheshire family, in whose hands it remains. The Whoolleys were in possession of the hall for centuries. Mr. Bostock exhibited some old deeds connected with the hall, dating back for over five hundred years. Many Roman remains have been found in the grounds and neighbourhood, suggesting Roman occupation. A short distance from the hall, higher up the river Etherow, and near to the edge, is a deep recess in the rocks called Pym's Parlour, or the Fairy Cave. Mr. Hamnett showed some coins found there by Mr. John Marsland in 1841. A little further on the peculiar mounds in the Hague were noticed, which by some antiquaries have been thought to be tumuli, but are simply natural formations caused by the numerous springs which are here.

A short walk brought the party to Melandra Castle, locally so-called, but identified by Mr. Thompson Watkin as the Roman station of *Z*erdotalia. With the exception

of the large number of worked stones lying about, and a portion of the ditch, little could be seen to indicate the once important character of this station. The site was admirably chosen, the surrounding district being visible at all points of the compass, rendering it secure from a surprise attack. No systematic or serious attempt to excavate this station has yet been made. The Duke of Norfolk, about 1851, excavated a small portion, when a vault or chamber, the floors and walls of which were tiled, was found but filled in again, as the duke was satisfied that buildings of a Roman character had formerly been there. Professor Boyd Dawkins said it was quite evident that an excavation would lead to important discoveries, and suggested that the Society should make a grant towards that object. The inscribed centurial stone, formerly over the doorway of the farm-house adjoining, having been removed to Glossop Hall, the party called there to see it. Other remains from Melandra are preserved there.

The Derbyshire Archæological Society has now taken up the work of excavating on this site, and subscriptions in aid have been collected by our own Society. Mr. Hamnett has kindly undertaken to supervise the work.

Monday, July 11th, 1898.

VISIT TO FLIXTON CHURCH AND SHAW HALL.

A goodly number of the members of the Society visited Flixton on the evening of the 11th July to see the old church and Shaw Hall, under the leadership of Mr. D. H. Langton, author of the *History of Flixton.*

The church stands, as Edwin Waugh describes it, on the highest ground in the landscape, "looking round upon the quiet parish like a mother watching her children

at play, and waiting till they come home tired to lie down and sleep with the rest."

From this high ground, using the churchyard as a sort of grand-stand, the people in times past have watched the horse-racing and bear-baiting at wakes time in the meadows below; and now, Catholic and Independent, Puritan and Presbyterian alike, they have come home to sleep, according to the records in the register, some in woollen, some in linen, and some in "sweet flowers only."

The old church, founded by Robert de Lathom in the twelfth century and given by him to his abbey of Burscough, has a curious point in its history, inasmuch as it was appropriated in 1280 by a bishop of Lichfield, and continued to belong to that diocese up to the present century.

The architecture is a curious mixture of classical and Late Perpendicular styles, little of the Norman foundation being left, except a small portion of the chancel and a stone worked in diaper pattern over the east window. The nave was rebuilt in 1756, the tower in 1731 and again in 1887.

Some of the objects of interest in the church are the benefaction boards; a brass to the memory of one of the Radcliffe family, of Ordsall, and Newcroft, Urmston; the bells; some curious stone carvings under the tower; the registers commencing in 1570; the hatchments of the Norreys family, of Davyhulme Hall, and an old oak chest in the vestry. One of the benefaction boards records that "the Newcroft Estate is subject to a yearly payment of 2/6 to the minister for a sermon and the like sum to the ringers on every 5th of November." The sermon is never preached now, but the ringers, always a thirsty crew, to judge from the old churchwardens' accounts, still enjoy the two shillings and sixpence for ringing,

if they will take the trouble to claim it. In connection with the bells, two old customs still linger. One is the ringing of the curfew and the other the ringing of the treble bell at one and two o'clock on Sunday afternoon. The latter goes by the name of the pudding-bell, and seems to be a survival of the time when there was no church at Carrington, and the bell was rung to let the people of that hamlet know there was service in the church at Flixton. The old oak chest, which, according to a record in the safe, was made in 1603 for the purpose of keeping the registers in, is still there little the worse for wear, excepting that the three padlocks, by which it was fastened, have disappeared from the hasps. The leader showed some interesting deeds and papers, one of the latter being a sheet of the churchwardens' accounts for the year 1690, in which the wardens pay "1/- for the capture of three hedgehogs, 2^{d} to a passinger, 2/6 to ye ringers on yè 5th of November," and sundry payments are mentioned on account of the church goods (probably the plate), which some rascal had stolen. Another item was "for a filbow [whatever that means] and to ye old clark for crominge ye church 00 . 01 . 00." A rubbing of the Radcliffe brass was also shown, which was taken in the early part of the present century. This, when compared with the brass as it is now, shows that the last two lines have been cut away (probably having been worn by lying in the chancel), and replaced imperfectly from memory.

In the churchyard curious epitaphs abound, and one cannot help noticing how often the word yeoman is used. There is an old sun-dial, bearing the date 1772, and some flat gravestones of enormous size and thickness; one of them measures nine feet by seven and is seven inches thick, probably to prevent burking.

From the church the party proceeded to Shaw Hall, which stands on the opposite side of the small valley, with its numerous gables, and surrounded by well kept gardens. Mr. and Mrs. Duckworth courteously received and entertained the members of the Society, who were allowed to see all over the hall. Some fine tapestry in one of the chambers, representing Darius submitting to Alexander the Great, came in for its share of approval; also a fine old painting, dealing with the same subject, in the part of the hall inhabited by Mr. Ridehalgh. The hall, which is supposed to have been built by a Leonard Asshawe, in the reign of James I., has its legend, common to many old halls, of being connected by an underground passage with the church, but no proof of this has ever been discovered. The armorial bearings of the Asshawes, together with those of the Egertons and De Traffords, may still be seen worked in stained glass in one of the windows.

Saturday, July 23rd, 1898.

EXPLORATIONS AT CASTLESHAW.

The Society paid a visit to Castleshaw, in Saddleworth. At Delph station the party were detained by rain for some time, which also prevented their progress over what remains of the Roman road known as the "great way," running between Delph and Castleshaw. Some few, however, ventured over this road on foot, while others were conveyed in closed carriages along the new road made by the Oldham Corporation. Arrived at the Roman camp, when the rain had subsided digging operations were begun with a view to finding the gateways of the station, a plan having been supplied from Aikin with the orientation corrected. The time was too

short to complete the work, but several members made interesting finds in the way of Samian and Roman black-and-white pottery. One of the leaders, Mr. G. F. Buckley, had already laid bare a length of pavement found about two feet below the surface, and had dug trenches in various places showing the foundations of buildings in various parts of the station. One of these trenches disclosed an ancient clay smelting hearth, evidently very primitive, which when first uncovered contained twelve to fourteen square feet on the surface, with quantities of charcoal and some pieces of iron slag buried near. In this hearth were three matrices, made when the clay was in a soft state, and these had evidently received the molten metal from the fire, which had probably been aided by bellows, when smelting the iron from the ore. Two of these matrices were seven-eighths of an inch across the top and one about one and a half inches, all being about three and a half inches deep, and tapered to the bottom. Into these matrices were cast small ingots of metal, which were probably used as a medium of exchange. This is the only smelting hearth of this kind so far discovered in this part of England, and is perhaps contemporary with the introduction of iron into this part of the country. Agricola describes such a hearth in his *De Veteribus*.

A meeting of the Society was held at "The Wood" under the presidency of Mr. William Harrison.

Mr. Samuel Andrew read a paper on "The Roman Camp at Castleshaw and the Antiquities of the Saddleworth District." (See p. 83.)

Mr. G. F. Buckley, in moving a vote of thanks to the reader of the paper, said he had hitherto looked sceptically on Castleshaw as being a Roman station, but now his doubts were dispelled, and he thought that the work

should be undertaken by some public body and that the investigations should be placed before the general community. He showed some good examples of Roman tiles and Samian ware he had found at Castleshaw.

A successful day's work for the Society was concluded by thanks to the chairman and to the exhibitors. Messrs. Roeder and Phelps rendered important services to the diggers at Castleshaw.

Saturday, August 13th, 1898.

VISIT TO VALE ROYAL AND OULTON PARK.

About forty members of the Society, under the leadership of Mr. J. J. Phelps, visited Vale Royal, Cheshire, formerly the site of a Cistercian monastery, but now the seat of Lord Delamere; also Oulton Park, the residence of Sir Philip Egerton, special permission having been given at both places. Entering the Vale Royal estate by the Granville lodge, and driving along the tree-shaded coach-road for about a mile, the party arrived at the mansion, which stands on rising ground above the river valley. A first glance conveys the idea that the building is disproportionately low, but yet impressive owing to its breadth of front. It is built of warm red stone, and lighted by large square-headed windows, with stone mullions.

The party were admitted through the main porch, which has on either side the sculptured crests of Cholmondeley and Delamere, and by an ancient iron-studded door of massive oak, which in bygone times may have belonged to the now vanished abbey. Formerly a grand flight of steps led up from the courtyard to the great hall door, which was therefore on the floor above; but these have been removed and the present entrance is

on the ground floor. The party were first conducted into a room set apart for the display of some magnificent trophies of Lord Delamere's valour and skill as a big-game hunter in Africa. Proceeding through the library the party then inspected the great hall, which is a noble apartment, seventy feet long, having a coved roof supported by ribs of carved oak, the intervening panels being filled with various emblazoned coats of arms. This room also contains many historic and family portraits by such well-known painters as Gainsborough, Vandyke, Lely, and Dening. In the windows are old stained-glass panels bearing the coats of arms of many Cheshire families. They were formerly in the possession of the Dones, of Utkinton Hall, and were removed from there to Tarporley Rectory, whence they were brought to their present home. They are copied in Coles's MSS. in the British Museum. Two other stained-glass panels represent the origin and founding of the abbey of Vale Royal by Edward I.

The house is rich in choice examples of furniture, in buhl-work, old carved-oak cabinets, coffers, quaint chairs, exquisite miniatures, and other works of art. There are also some exceedingly fine specimens of armour and trophies of implements and weapons of war enriching its corridors and walls.

Leaving the interior, the party then inspected another portion of the site of the abbey in the grounds called "the Nun's Grave," so named from the tradition that one of the nuns or prioresses of a convent at Chester desired to be buried there, because it was considered a place of special sanctity. The cross and other detached portions of the old abbey masonry attracted considerable attention. It is a matter of great regret that so little is to be seen above ground recalling its ecclesiastical

character, its very walls appear to have been scattered to the four winds of heaven. In the basement of the hall, however, which is supposed to have been the cellars of the monastery, many traces are still to be seen of the old work, but to this portion the visitors had not access.

The drive was continued by way of the grand beech avenue to Whitegate. It was suggested that, being in the neighbourhood, the opportunity could be taken *en route* to visit Merton Grange, one of the tributaries in times past to the revenues of the abbey, and which even in the twelfth century is recorded as having been bestowed by Randle Blundeville, earl of Chester, upon Randle, son of Randle, his faithful forester. But as the old Grange house had been demolished and nothing remained to be seen except its moated site, and a recent building designated Marton Hall, occupied by a farmer, it was not considered advisable to lose time in visiting it.

Resting the horses at Little Budworth, a quiet stroll along a field-path brought the party to the residence of Sir Philip Egerton, erected in 1716 from the designs of Sir John Vanbrugh, but the interior was altered and a terrace added, under the superintendence of Lewis Wyatt. Here the members were conducted first into the spacious entrance hall, which contains many objects of interest, and then through Lady Egerton's boudoir to the dining-room, where the pictures by Vandyke, Snyders, and Holbein afforded great interest and pleasure; as also did the four great tapestries, representing the seasons, which hung upon the walls of the staircase. After an inspection of the hermit's cave, and the herds of deer roaming the three-hundred-acre park, a walk down the avenue brought the party to the lodge gates, where the conveyances were waiting to drive them down the road across the Budworth Common to Hartford, where Mr.

Phelps read a paper on the history of "Vale Royal" (see p. 75) and exhibited some excellent photographs and drawings.

Monday, August 22nd, 1898.

KERSAL CELL.

The members of the Society paid a visit to Kersal Cell, under the leadership of Miss Yates, and received a kindly welcome from Mrs. Barber, the present occupier. Kersal Cell is a house of many memories. At present it is used as a ladies' school. Where the front door now is was originally the back of the house. The old yew tree still keeps sentinel before the house, but is, alas, only a ghost of its former self. Inside there are many quaint relics of ancient furnishing and furniture. The old black oak staircase, with open twisted balusters, is of rare beauty. Some of the old oak panelling remains in the rooms downstairs, evidently of the Elizabethan or Jacobean period. The structure of the house in the older parts is very ancient. Mr. John Owen pointed out in one place the feature known in architecture as a "crook," indicative of at least three centuries' age. Mrs. Barber showed some old mouldings from which she had recently scraped the defacing accretions of later times. Traces of the old chapel are said to remain, and in an upper room there are some antique mouldings of the arms of the Byroms, one of the slabs bearing date 1692. The magpie building outside is fairly well preserved.

The cell or hermitage of Kereshale is said to date from A.D. 1154. Kersal was affiliated to the priory of Lenton in Nottinghamshire, which in turn was affiliated to Cluny in Normandy. At the dissolution the lordship or manor or cell of Kershawe passed to John

KERSAL CELL.

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Wood and Baudewyn Williughby, and after that into the hands of the Siddalls, the Chethams, and the Kenyons.

In studying the ancient land system of this country it is interesting to note that portions of the open field at Leesfield, which was made up of scattered strips belonging to the same and different owners called "doles" and "lands" and "acres" were part and parcel of the manor of Kersal. This is evident from an Inquisition taken in 1588, and this system of scattered ownership carries us back to the prehistoric period when the land at Lees belonged to the village community. The following is a copy of an entry by the late John Higson, supplied by his son, Charles Higson: "In 1588 Edward Siddall, of Slade Hall, near Manchester, held yearly rent of twelve pence out of lands and tenements in Lees as parcel of Kersal manor. A yearly rent of three shillings and fourpence, payable by Robert Hobson, of Lees, as parcel of Kersal manor, and a yearly rent of fivepence, payable by Agnes Lees, of Lees, as parcel of Kersal manor." The Byroms came into possession of Kersal Cell in after times. The chief ornament of the family was John Byrom, M.A., F.R.S., who is best remembered by the famous hymn, "Christians Awake," written and published in 1773, and set to music by Wainwright, of Stockport, at that time a leading musician in Manchester.

Friday, October 7th, 1898.

The opening meeting of the winter session was held in Chetham's College, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A., the President, in the chair.

Mr. W. H. Underdown exhibited a Roman iron spearhead, nine inches long, found recently at Blackstone Edge.

Mr. G. C. Yates placed on the table some interesting flint flakes from Somaliland and also similar flakes from Cissbury.

Mr. W. W. Midgley sent for exhibition the photograph of a Neolithic perforated stone axe found at Blackrod, June, 1897, also a photograph of a so-called stone pestle found near Carnforth about June, 1897. Mr. Yates read a letter from Sir John Evans, who said: "I incline to think that the so-called pestle must be a 'slickstone' for polishing linen, but made of actual stone instead of glass. The glass slickstones are somewhat of this shape, and are usually about five inches in diameter. See Evans's *Stone Implements*, p. 441." A figure of one of these glass slickstones is given in vol. iii. of our *Transactions*, p. 256.

The President gave, as the opening address of the Session, the following paper on "Pedigree Hunting":—

"Vanity of vanities!" That is the verdict pronounced by the utilitarian and the Philistine, who regard all pursuits which do not directly or indirectly promote their material interests, on the, at any rate, harmless, occupation of the pedigree hunter, who may deem himself fortunate if he be spared the severer strictures of the moralist, who would condemn his labours as ministering to family pride, and who has no tender side for the weaknesses of poor human nature.

Yet genealogical studies are becoming more and more the pursuit of many not altogether frivolous persons whose impelling motive is not a mere desire to establish a claim to family importance, but who have a laudable desire to know who and what their forefathers were. The prophet Isaiah bade the children of Israel to "look unto the rock whence ye were hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye were digged," and surely if it be desirable to investigate the history of our race, it is

permissible to the individual to seek to know something regarding his ancestors, the race from which they sprung, their occupations, their fortunes or misfortunes, were it only that he might try to emulate their virtues, or learn to avoid the rocks or shoals on which they may have shipwrecked their lives.

But genealogists are not necessarily engaged solely with investigations into their own family history. Every county has produced its heroes, be they those who have left their mark on the history of their country, or great poets, painters, literary men, or men of science, and of such the desire to know something of their lineage seems to be universal. No biography is complete which does not trace the ancestry of its subject. Mr. Galton has shown us what valuable contributions may be made to the science of anthropology, if care were taken in a sufficient number of instances to record, not only the mental and moral, but also the physical characteristics of families throughout several generations, and this is being done to a considerable extent both in this country and in America.

The establishment during the present year of a "Lancashire Parish Register Society," which we owe to the initiative of our ex-President, Colonel Fishwick, has led me to think that a few words on the subject of genealogical studies may not be inopportune at the beginning of a new session of our Society. We have amongst us members who have long devoted themselves to this branch of antiquarian research, and better qualified to offer advice on it than I am, and I shall be delighted if they will supplement my very elementary remarks by suggestions and practical hints which would be helpful to those who may contemplate taking up the study, and who as yet are without experience.

But I do not address myself to the experts, but to the tyro, and I propose to deal with my subject under three heads, premising that I do not seek to guide those who wish to elucidate the genealogy of great territorial families, the sources of whose history are so many that it would require a volume to treat of them; but those only who are concerned with the more or less undistinguished middle class, about whom history is silent, but who may none the less have lived honourable and useful lives, and have left, if nothing more, a good name to their descendants. The three heads I shall consider are: (1) The sources of information, (2) what to record, and (3) how to record:—

(1) The sources of information. The first knowledge we get of our kindred naturally comes from our parents or living relatives or friends, and the right method of research is to proceed from the living generation backwards. If we would take the trouble of seeking and recording such information, we should have a firm basis for our further investigations. It is curious, however, to find what a little way back we can get from such help unless we have had the good fortune to number amongst our informants some one who has been especially interested in the family history. Probably we shall not get beyond the grandfather, or at most the great grandfather, but if the family has been possessed of property, and especially landed or house property, there are sure to be wills, settlements, or conveyances which will furnish names and relationships. Conveyances, however, are through the change of ownership very often not available. It is necessary on the sale of property to give up the title deeds and other evidences of ownership, but it often happens, especially when the

property has been a long time in the family, that many documents, having perhaps no connection, or only a remote one, with the property, or of a date far beyond what is necessary for establishing a valid title, have become bundled up with the essential title deeds, and so passed into alien hands.

It is a pity that the vendor does not retain such documents, for they are of no use to the purchaser, whilst they would probably possess great interest to his descendants as throwing light on his family history. If members of the family have been in trade, or have been engaged in farming, traces of them will perhaps be found in the lists of persons who have exercised public functions, such as aldermen, councillors, churchwardens, parish officers, jurors of manorial courts, &c., or in the higher offices of members of parliament, high sheriffs, &c. Old directories, too, have their value. What ought to be amongst the best sources of information, where past generations of the family can be localised, are the parish registers; but the earlier ones, say down to the end of the seventeenth century, are terribly disappointing, as they rarely give more than the bald statement that on such a date so-and-so was baptised, married, or buried, and without reference to parentage or residence, and sometimes even the age at death is omitted. In most parishes, too, there are periods, especially that of the Commonwealth, when the registers are altogether missing or have been imperfectly kept. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, much valuable information can be gained by an intelligent use of them, and as we approach more recent times the details are fuller, and yield more satisfactory results to the searcher. Greater facilities of search are very desirable.

The Act of 1836 enacts the payment for every search

extending over a period not more than one year shall be the sum of 1s., and 6d. additional for every additional year and the sum of 2s. 6d. for every single certificate. Such a charge may be reasonable where the object of the search is to obtain evidences for legal purposes, but is quite prohibitory to the genealogist, who has no pecuniary interest in view. So far as my experience extends, however, I have found the clergy ready on any courteous request to allow searches to be made for a merely nominal fee. Some, however, very properly require that the search shall be made in the presence of the clerk or other official of the church, so as to prevent any tampering with the register, and that he shall be paid for time so occupied.

The value of parish registers, and the peril they are in through age, decay, fire, and in many cases careless guardianship (though of late years there is little cause for complaint of neglect), have led to a movement for printing these valuable documents. Such an undertaking can, however, be carried out only by a generous support from those who know and value these records, and who have sufficient public spirit to devote time and money to a work of national importance. I trust that this Society, which gave some encouragement to the establishment of the Lancashire Parish Register Society, will not let it die from want of adequate support.

Funeral monuments also furnish generally reliable data of value. The old series of *The Gentleman's Magazine*, and of late years newspapers and some magazines, often give biographical notices of persons who have in any way distinguished themselves, or who have occupied a prominent position in the district where they are published.

Evidences of great importance to the genealogist, but concerning chiefly the territorial class, with whom I am

not at present dealing, are the "Inquisitions post mortem" and the Feet of Fines. The former was the report of an officer of the Crown, who, on the death of a person holding land direct from the Crown, was directed to hold an inquiry before a jury to return a verdict on the following points: (1) What lands the tenant died seized of, (2) the services by which the lands were held and the yearly value, (3) the date of the tenant's death, and (4) the name and age of his next heir. These reports often gave, in addition, details of wills, marriage settlements, and documents affecting the devolution of land; it is readily seen, therefore, how important these documents are to the class of society to which they refer. The Feet of Fines are valuable for the purpose of tracing the devolution of landed property, and may be briefly described as "the official memorandum of the compromise of a fictitious judicial action taken by the purchaser for the purpose of better assuring his title to the land he had bought."

Lastly I may mention the heralds' visitations. At intervals between the years 1530 and 1687 the heralds made periodical visitations throughout the country, and summoned to their courts all persons claiming to bear coat armour, and required them to prove their title to the same, and at the same time to register their pedigree. If the design had been carried out continuously, with legal precision and with the hearty co-operation of the public, we should have had an invaluable genealogical record of the gentry of England. Noblemen were exempted from the visitations, as their arms and pedigrees were enrolled along with their patents of creation, but the heralds' summons was often, especially in later times, disregarded, not so much from a lack of interest in family history, as for other reasons. Some resented the

inquisition as being an unwarranted prying into family history. The older families, whose position in society was well established, felt there was nothing to be gained by a fresh recognition of their family importance by a herald who was often a person of station far inferior to their own. Political feeling and religious sentiment prevented many attending the herald's court, and "the later visitations show that a large number of those summoned entirely ignored the call, so that they are more remarkable for the pedigrees omitted, than for those included, whilst among the disclaimers may, not unfrequently, be found the names of families who were certainly of visitation rank."

Notwithstanding these drawbacks the visitations are of great value. A great number of them have been printed, not always from the originals, and are thus pretty easily accessible. There are a great number of sources of information upon which I cannot enter now, but must refer you to the many works which are now published on the subject of genealogy.

(2) Having gleaned all the facts relating to the family which can be obtained, it is desirable to know what should be recorded in a pedigree, which, it must be remembered, is not intended to be an exhaustive family history. We start our record, then, with the earliest ancestor of whom we have authentic knowledge, and state, as far as we know them, the residence, status, dates of birth, marriage, and death, with the places where these events took place, the name of his wife, her lineage, and dates of the like events in her life, and it gives great value to the work if reference be made to the sources from whence the information is derived. Any facts which would illustrate the individual's career, such as distinguished

employment in the public service, authorship, &c., might be very briefly noted; but any lengthened notice should be avoided, as tending to obscure the pedigree, the chief aim of which should be to show almost at a glance the lines of descent and relationship. The subsequent generations should be treated in the same way, but the issue of younger sons should not be continued, except in a separate pedigree, to which reference should be made in the pedigree of the parent stem.

There are two forms in which pedigrees may be drawn out, the narrative form and the chart or diagram form. The former possesses the advantage of greater convenience and cheapness in printing, but it is more confusing, and the details require close attention to follow out. It is the form adopted in peerages and works of that class. The main line of descent, say, father, eldest son, eldest grandson, &c., would be distinguished by Roman numerals, I., II., III., &c., and the children of each of these by Arabic numerals, 1, 2, 3, &c. The chart form shows the paragraphs relating to father and mother, united to each other by two short parallel lines (=), from which a line descends to a horizontal line with pendent lines for each child, care being taken that all of the same generation are placed on the same horizontal line. This method affords the greatest facility in tracing out the relationships, but as the pedigree becomes extended, it soon becomes unwieldy and even impracticable. The best way of dealing with it is, as I have said, to follow only the main line with subsidiary pedigrees for the younger branches. Key pedigrees are useful auxiliaries to both of the forms named. They are simple charts following the direct line of descent, and ignoring brothers and sisters of each generation.

(3) I have already indicated to some extent the third branch of my subject, How to record, and have only here to say that a pedigree is not and should not be a biography, but merely a record of ancestry and descendants, and as such it has its uses. Biography, when the subject is worthy of it, has a higher purpose to serve, and demands greater literary skill. It is, in fact, literature, which the other is not. Some writers, Mr. Galton especially, have sought to elevate genealogical researches to the rank of a science by making them record every physical and mental characteristic of each individual, with a view to elucidate the laws of heredity. This is a no less important than a difficult task, but it belongs to the science of anthropology.

I trust you will not think that I have taken up too much of your time with a subject unworthy of your attention. Had I not been addressing an audience some of whom are devoted to antiquarian pursuits, and all of whom, it must be supposed, are interested in them, I dared not have ventured upon it. Those who pursue genealogical studies know how interesting the pursuit becomes as they hunt fact after fact, often receiving checks, but rewarded not unfrequently by the clearing away of doubts and establishing a solid groundwork of facts. In conclusion, let me quote the words of an excellent antiquary and genealogist, Mr. M. A. Lower: "There are some persons who cannot discriminate between the taste for pedigree (or genealogy) and the pride of ancestry. Now these two feelings, though they often combine in one individual, have no necessary connection with each other. Man is said to be a hunting animal. Some hunt foxes; others for fame and fortune. Others hunt in the intellectual field; some for the arcana of nature and of mind; some for the roots of words, or

the origin of things. I am fond of hunting out a pedigree, and, gentle hearers, when you have joined the chase genealogical, I promise you, so also will you be."

An interesting discussion followed the reading of the paper, in which Messrs. G. B. L. Woodburne, William Harrison, J. E. Sandbach, and Colonel Fishwick took part.

Mr. Samuel Andrew gave some extracts from an old notebook or diary dating from 1758, which once belonged to an Oldham family. It was accompanied by a number of coins, some of which dated back to the seventeenth century. The first entry in the notebook to which he called attention related to a strike or lockout, which occurred in the textile trade of this district, and is perhaps the first on record. The "Manchester tradesmen" had given notice to their weavers, who lived chiefly in the Oldham and Ashton districts, comprising Hollinwood, Failsworth, and Taunton, and had drawn up a declaration to be signed by the weavers to cease paying to their union funds. This drew out a protest from the weavers, in which they remind their employers that concessions of this kind had been made before, and when the "Highlandmen" came to Manchester in 1745 so much money was taken from the district that the weavers out of charity to the Manchester tradesmen had renounced these payments, and, it may be inferred, had submitted to a corresponding reduction of prices for weaving. The document was interesting as showing that strikes and lockouts were not the special heritage of the factory system. It also showed that capital and labour did not agree very well in those halcyon days, when every man had his loom in his own house, and "bunted" his cuts at Manchester, bringing back the "warp and gears" and raw material, be it cotton or wool, to spin the weft on his

own hearthstone. Another extract contained the rules of an alehouse during last century, when Boniface was supposed to be a very respectable man, the last line containing the delusive promise, "Pay to-day and I'll trust to-morrow." In the year 1759 there was an abundant potato crop, potatoes being sold in Oldham at ten pounds for one penny, and the customer wanted trust at that price. The next extract was dated 1799, and was a copy of an old Jacobin song, entitled "The New-fashioned Shaver," evidently written by David Hall, of Disley or Mellor Church. David adopted the pseudonym of "O'Thoie," and under this name spurted treasonable drivel at "Billy Pitt" and the English nation generally.

Friday, November 4th, 1898.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held in the Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson in the chair.

Through the kindness of the Rev. J. E. Mercer, rector of Gorton, forty-eight volumes of the chained books left by Humphrey Chetham to Gorton were exhibited. In describing them Mr. Mercer said: There appeared lately, in several of the Manchester papers, various notices drawing attention to the existence in our midst of a singularly interesting and valuable relic of the seventeenth century. I refer to the almost unique chest of chained books, "bequeathed by Humphrey Chetham" to Gorton Church in 1658. This and the Turton chest are the sole survivors of the five presented to Lancashire churches by the great local benefactor, and this also had well-nigh gone. Chest and contents alike had fallen into

a sad state of neglect and dilapidation, and eight of the original fifty-six books are lost. An effort is now being made in a spirit of true antiquarian reverence to stay the desolating hand of dusty oblivion, and to restore to the "chained library" somewhat of its pristine dignity of place and appearance. The chest has been entrusted to the well-tried skill and care of Mr. James Lamb. The books are in the charge of Mr. Albert Sutton, who is waiting to expend upon them human labour to the value of from £10 to £100, according as the nineteenth century conscience is stirred in its dying moments to make reparation for the follies and neglects of its youth and prime. When the renovation is completed, the chest will be placed in the parish church, and its safety there will be secured by a faculty already obtained. I would add that the renovated chest, with its unrenovated books, will be exhibited for some little time to come in the vestibule of the King Street library, and will serve to bring into prominence the real extent of ground covered by the modern "free library." For we may regard the Chetham chests as one of the first steps taken in the direction of providing free reading for the people.

Mr. John Brooke, A.R.I.B.A., read a valuable paper on "The Origin and History of English Church Architecture." The paper was illustrated by lantern views.

Mr. George C. Yates read the following communication, which had been made to the press by Mr. Robert Law, F.G.S.: One of the most important archæological discoveries that has been brought to light in the north of England was made on Thursday, July 7th, on a farm on a portion of land known as Higher Cross Stone Farm, belonging to Mr. Sutcliffe, of Todmorden. In a field on this farm, called Black Heath, a ring circle made of earth has long been known to exist, and has gone by the

name of "Frying Pan." No history or tradition exists as to the origin of this circle, and various speculations have from time to time been indulged in by the residents of the district. Some have called it a Roman camp, others a circus ring made to break in horses, but the excavations made on Thursday last proved it to be a burial place of prehistoric times. Mr. Tattersall Wilkinson, of Burnley, a well-known archæologist of considerable experience on ring circles, along with Mr. Robert Law, came to the conclusion, on hearing of this circle, that it probably contained human remains, and an excavating party was organised and appointed to meet on the spot. The party met at the appointed time, and the plan of operation was to find the centre of the circle by means of a tape; then to dig a circular trench, about three feet from the centre, in which space it was thought the remains would lie. This ring was a nearly perfect circle. It was raised conspicuously above the ground. The rim of raised earth was about three feet wide, and the diameter of the whole circle was thirty yards. After the digging had been going on a short time, burnt soil and charcoal were met with, and the top of an urn was exposed to view. The diggers went to work in earnest, but with the greatest care possible, and very soon a beautiful urn was laid bare exactly in the centre of the ring. This urn was embedded in charcoal and calcined bones. It was about ten inches high, and nine inches wide at the top, tapering to four inches wide at the bottom. There was a rim or collar in the upper part of the urn about three inches deep, and stood out about one inch in relief from the lower part of it. This collar was ornamented probably by a pointed stick in the herring-bone pattern. The other part of the urn was plain. In clearing away the debris from the urn, another one was

discovered, different in pattern and less in size, but in a very perfect state of preservation. About two feet from this, on the opposite side of the central urn, another urn was discovered and laid bare by carefully digging round it with a trowel. This urn was also in a good state of preservation, and about the size of the second one, but differently ornamented. These two smaller urns were of the same shape as the large central one, but the ornamentations were not so fine, and they were made of inferior clay. On the south side of the circle, about two feet from the centre, another urn was discovered, but it appeared to have been insufficiently baked when manufactured, and had decomposed and crumbled into dust. From the inside of this urn, a large quantity of calcined human bones and charcoal was taken, but the bones were very fragmentary, and the sex of the persons to whom the bones belonged could not be determined. Several portions of cranium, rib bones, and lower and upper limb bones were found among the debris. Within a few inches of this urn two so-called small incense cups were found. One of them was very perfect and in an excellent state of preservation, and was beautifully ornamented all over. These cups were about three inches in height and three and a half inches in diameter, but tapered a little at the bottom. Indications of three other urns were believed to occur, but so far decomposed that little or nothing could be made out about them. They seemed to be arranged around the large central urn, and about two feet apart. When the earth had been cleared away from the three perfect urns, and before they had been removed, several photographs were taken of them *in situ*. One of the smaller urns leaned a little to the south. The three urns and two incense cups were taken up and put into baskets, conveyed to Todmorden,

where they were again photographed, and then deposited in the Free Library. To whatever tribe or race of beings the human remains deposited in these urns may belong, one thing is certain, that they were in the habit of cremating the bodies of the dead; also that they belonged to a class of people who knew little or nothing about the use of metals, and who fashioned their tools and weapons out of flint or other hard stones. Several pieces of flint and chert were dug out near the urns, and thousands of flint implements and instruments have been found previous to this discovery on the moorlands around Todmorden.

Mr. H. J. Dukinfield Astley, honorary secretary, British Archæological Association, in a letter to the *Athenæum*, August 6th, 1898, states that when the intact urns were opened in the Todmorden Free Library, whither they had been conveyed, on Wednesday, July 13th, in the presence of a number of local archæologists, a small cup was laid bare inside one of the urns, in which a piece of metal, two and a half inches long and one and a quarter inches wide at one end, and tapering to a point at the other, was found, and soon afterwards a bronze pin, which evidently belonged to it, the two forming a bronze brooch. A dozen beads, some jet, some bone, belonging to a necklace, and a bone pin were also discovered. Nothing else was found except calcined bone and charcoal, but the bronze brooch is decisive. The burial belongs to the Bronze Age, when it is known that cremation was practised, and was probably that of some great personage or chief of that age, together with his wives and dependents, who were compelled to accompany him on his journey to the underworld, after the fashion of suttee in India.

Friday, December 2nd, 1898.

The monthly meeting of the Society was held at Chetham's Library, Manchester, Mr. C. W. Sutton presiding.

Mr. William Harrison laid upon the table a draught map, prepared by him, of Lancashire in the Medieval period, and made the following observations upon it: A few years ago the Society of Antiquaries of London laid down a scheme for the construction of a series of medieval county maps. These maps, it was intended, should be proceeded with, and published as soon as the scheme already formulated for archæological maps covering the pre-Norman period should be completely carried out. This condition apparently postpones the Medieval maps to a dim and distant future, for at the present rate of progress the middle of the twentieth century will be reached before all the counties have completed the survey of the earlier period. A beginning was indeed made a few years ago for Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire by Chancellor Ferguson and Mr. H. Swainson Cowper, but they ultimately set the scheme aside either as premature or as one which could await the completion of more pressing work. Meanwhile, I have draughted the map which is now submitted for inspection and criticism. The scheme of the Society of Antiquaries left many points unprovided for, in fact, as supplied to me it consisted merely of a set of symbols. The first question to be decided was whether, like the Archæological map already published, the foundation was to be a modern map on which the ancient sites were to be marked, or whether the start was to be made from a bare outline. I came to the conclusion that the latter course was preferable. Isolated prehistoric and Roman sites are best

located on a modern chart, but the medieval period has so much in common with our own that on such a chart it would become a question rather of striking out the more modern features than of inserting the ancient ones. To obtain a true picture of the period we must commence with a *tabula rasa* and insert only the items then actually in existence. The next point was as to scale. The conclusion arrived at was that the scale of four miles to the inch adopted for the Archæological map was not large enough, and that of two miles to the inch was accordingly adopted. This being too large to show the whole of Lancashire on a sheet of moderate size, the county has been divided into four sheets fastened together in book form. Having got thus far, the question was what to mark? The physical features were limited to the bare outline and the rivers, though some of the meres, mosses, and forests are named. Obviously, many modern features must be excluded, and so we have no railways, no canals, no turnpike-roads even, and towns such as Barrow, Fleetwood, Blackpool, and Southport, must be conspicuous by their absence. The list of symbols prepared by the Society of Antiquaries comprises monastic and collegiate churches, parish churches, chapels, castles, manor-houses, bridges, fords, beacons, forges, potters' kilns, and crosses. One or two of these are, for the present at least, left out. The crosses were so numerous in our county that it is difficult to say where they were not, and to mark them on this scale would hardly be possible without undue crowding. Of potters' kilns I have not yet come across any record. To compensate for those omissions, other items are introduced, particularly the ferries, a not unimportant item in this county, the parks, and the great roads. The map is accompanied by a list of the items marked in it. This differs from the

topographical index which forms part of the pre-Norman survey, in that it is not alphabetical. The arrangement is synthetic, all the items denoted by a particular symbol being grouped together, each hundred however being made complete in itself, following the order in Baines. The authority is in each case appended, this being primarily the last edition of Baines. For the bridges, ferries, fords, and beacons, the papers in our own *Transactions* during the last four years are referred to, and for some other items the authority of papers in the Historic Society's *Transactions* is given. This list is also made to serve the purpose of indicating the limits of existence of the various items. Having no precise guidance on the point, I have taken the medieval period as ranging from the Norman Conquest to the dissolution of the monasteries, say, from A.D. 1066 to A.D. 1535. Of course, strictly speaking, a map can represent one moment of time alone, and, if we are to make it serve for a period of nearly five hundred years, it can only be by some sort of compromise. In this map everything is inserted that can be shown to have had an existence during any part of the period, and, therefore, it is possible to find side by side two or more items which never existed contemporaneously. That, however, is in the nature of the case unavoidable. The corrective is to be found in the list. Where possible this gives the date of commencement and cesser of the particular item, and to make this more graphic the narrow columns representing six centuries are crossed by red lines, which denote how much of their course it covers. Many items, it will be seen, have had to be left undated. Before any such map and list can be published they will require, as may be readily supposed, very careful correction and revision, and it will probably be years before they can be

completed. My present object is merely to call attention to the subject, in the hope that discussion and criticism may lead to improvement and ultimate completion.

After the above was communicated to the Society, a survey of Herefordshire in the Medieval period, by Mr. James Davies and the Rev. J. O. Bevan, M.A., F.S.A., was published, and its appearance afforded an opportunity of testing the conclusions above expressed. In its general plan it follows the scheme of the pre-Norman survey. The symbols are marked on a modern map, which however is, as suggested above, on a larger scale than four miles to the inch. The symbols do not include roads, bridges, fords, ferries, beacons, forges, or parks. They do, however, include earthworks, bloomeries, sites of battles, holy wells, village crosses, coins, and columbaria, the last-named a feature in which Herefordshire is peculiarly rich. Although the survey is supposed to be confined to the medieval period, the symbols in regard to which are coloured red on the map, other symbols, coloured blue and green respectively, denote British religious foundations, Anglo-Saxon walled towns, dykes, and interments or cemeteries. A topographical index accompanies, arranged alphabetically, as in the pre-Norman survey. The limits of the period are taken as A.D. 1100 to 1600.

Some observations on the subject were offered by the Chairman, Messrs. Pearson and Albert Nicholson, and Colonel Fishwick.

Mr. C. J. H. Gradisky exhibited a perforated hammer-stone found at Adlington, Cheshire, and Mr. Charles Schwabe some Roman vases.

Mr. John Owen stated that recently he came upon what appeared to be an ancient burial mound which was surrounded by a slight ditch. It stands on the edge of a

steep bank overlooking a small brook, and is situated between Ellenbrook and Boothstown.

Mr. Yates stated that a windmill stood on this spot until about twenty years ago, when it was demolished. The place is known by the name of Windybank Low.

Mr. William Farrer contributed a paper, which was read by the Chairman, on "The Domesday Survey between Ribble and Mersey." (See p. 1.)

Messrs. Marsden and Harrison, the Rev. H. A. Hudson, M.A., and Alderman Mandley took part in the discussion on this paper.

Mr. Thomas Kay gave the following account of his visit to the Picts' eirde or earth-houses of Strathdon: On the hillside of Glenkindie, and about two hundred yards from the river Don, there is a hole in the ground encumbered by masses of rock, overgrown with nettles and weeds, the whole enclosed by a rail fence in the midst of a pasture field. Amidst these boulders downward steps have been made to the entrance, which is closed by a locked gate, into what is called the Pict's house of Glenkindie. A couple more steps of original rock lands us into the artificially constructed cavern. It is built up with large stones, selected and adjusted without mortar in what is known as the Cyclopean style of architecture. The sides are made to approach each other near the top. The ceiling is composed of immense natural, untooled, granite slabs, eight or nine feet of visible length. Their real length and thickness is not discernible, but if they project only one or two feet on each side it is a small allowance for their weight, and the masonry which has to support them. Some of them must be at least eleven feet long, and their thickness must make their weight prodigious, when we consider that they were raised and placed in position by a race in all

probability ignorant of the use of iron. To one who has visited Mycenae, in the Peleponnesus, and its treasure chambers, he cannot but be struck with the similarity between them and these so-called Pict's houses. They have been excavated out of the side of a hill, and been domed toward the roof by bringing the stones forward nearer to the centre they have then been covered in and the ground made to appear as naturally untouched as possible. This earth-house at Glenkindie is smaller than either of the treasure chambers of Mycenae, but it possesses the entrance hall and an inner room of smaller dimensions, which is easy of concealment by a few stones inserted at the entrance place, which is in a dark corner, and hence difficult of observation, as there is no ray of light, except from the mouth. The aperture is only sufficient to allow of a man's crawling in, and retreating therefrom by the reverse way, as its base is about three feet above the ground of the entrance hall. The inhabitants here call them houses or dwelling-places, but their dampness and want of ventilation must ever have precluded their use for that purpose, though they would make an excellent lair for a robber or two in which to lurk beside the roads of Strathdon, or for cattle tenders or shepherds to take refuge in storm or raid. Before the hill-side was cleared and brought into cultivation the caves would be difficult for a stranger to find, enveloped as they would be by broom, and gorse, and heather, if not by the pine woods which here and there form dark shades of sombre green in the otherwise golden coloured valley of autumn. The corn is grown up to the heather, and its colour in autumn gives the name Glen Buicke or Yellow Glen to the present Glenbucket, which is adjacently situated. About three miles higher up the Don, on the same side, at the farmhouse of Buchaam,

there is a similar rubble-built stone cave, but of a sickle shape, without an inner chamber. The walls are built in precisely the same way, sloping inwards towards the ceiling, of flat rough slabs of stone, which seem to be kecked against the curve of the wall, exercising thereby some lateral pressure, which prevents them tumbling in, and they are sustained externally by the weight of the earth or rock which surrounds the cave. The cave slopes downward to the farthest end, where there is an accumulation of water and mud; outside of it there is a small square aperture, which may be seen from above, and this allows a little ventilation. It is hardly possible that these caves could have been residences; on the other hand, they may have been places of concealment in stress of circumstances, or storehouses for food and treasure. On the Milton Farm of Mr. Wattie, in Glenbucket, equidistant from the two previously described, there is another Picts' house. It is in a field above the smithy. The entrance to it, I am informed, was stopped by the present tenant's father in consequence of damage to his crops by trespassers visiting it. It deserves to be chronicled that it is there, and may be open at some future time to interest future archeologists. These three subterranean chambers are each about two miles from each other, and this may indicate that each village or clan had one of these concealment places constructed for its occasional needs.

After the paper a discussion took place, in which Messrs. Sandbach, A. Nicholson, Yates, and the Chairman took part.

The Rev. Henry A. Hudson exhibited a MS. (written on palm leaves) from India, called a "Punthi." The characters are "Ooriya." Its former possessor was a "Gond," by caste, from Sambalpur, in the Central

Provinces, where "Ooriya" is much spoken, though this language is in more general use towards the coast, in Orissa. The contents are "mantras" or prayers. The religion to which they belong is doubtful, but is not Hinduism or Buddhism. Palm leaves were used on account of the scarcity of paper and on account of their durability. Some of these books are highly ornamented and coloured, and as large as two feet long. They are difficult to obtain, as printed books of prayers are in general use now, and the MSS. are being kept by the better classes as curiosities. The MS. is nine inches long and three inches thick, the leaves being about one inch wide. The leaves, one hundred and fourteen in number, are inscribed for the most part on both sides, the characters being scratched by a style. They are kept together by a cord passing through a hole in the middle of each leaf, the cord then passing round the leaves, which are kept in position by two outside strips of hard wood.

Mr. Yates exhibited a specimen of Bongo spade money, and said the "Loggoh kullutty" was, until recently, the circulating medium of the Bongo, the only equivalent which Central Africa possessed for money of any description; but, rough shaped as it is, it seems really to answer in its way the purpose of regular coin. According to Major Denham, who visited the Central Soudan in 1824, there were at that time some iron pieces which were circulated as currency in Loggoh, on the Lower Shary, answering to what is now in use among the Bongo; but at the period of Barth's visit all traces of their use had long disappeared. The "Loggoh kullutty" is formed in flat circles, varying in diameter from ten to twelve inches. On one edge there is a short handle, on the opposite there is attached a projecting limb,

something in the form of an anchor. In this shape the metal is stored up in the treasures of the rich, and up to the present time it serves as well as the lance-heads and spades for cash and for exchanges, being available not only for purchases, but for the marriage portions which every suitor is pledged to assign. A very curious currency exists in Doma (Niger). It is of iron made in the form of a small hoe with a long spike at one end. These are tied up in bundles of a dozen or thereabouts, and thirty-six are said to be the ordinary price of a slave. This strange money is in Dóma and in Korórofa called Akíka; by the Mitshi, Ibia; and in Háusa, Angeléma. Farther up the river Niger, Baker says: "I saw a man who had several bundles of pieces of iron, pointed towards the extremities, but thicker in the middle. Similar pieces I have seen at Gúrowa, but had not ascertained their use, and were now surprised to find they were money, and therefore analogous to the hoe-shaped pieces. One hundred of these formed the average price of a male slave, and for one horse five slaves could be procured."

Wednesday, December 7th, 1898.

The annual conversazione was held at the City Art Gallery. Members and friends assembled shortly after six o'clock, and were received by the President (Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, M.A.) and his daughter, Mrs. Poynting, in the picture gallery. The company afterwards assembled in the lecture hall.

The President and Mr. Alfred Darbyshire made a few remarks concerning the work of the Society, and were followed by the Honorary Secretary (Mr. George C. Yates) with the following notes on the Roman relics found

by Mr. Charles Roeder at Alport Town, Manchester: "As there are probably many members and friends of the Society who had not an opportunity of attending the meeting in March last, when a report was submitted, in a paper by Mr. Roeder, concerning the extensive excavations in lower Deansgate, at Castlefield, and the neighbourhood of Gaythorn, Knot Mill, and Bridgewater Street, which have added not a little to our knowledge of the *castrum* and the Brito-Roman town, an exhibition of some of the Roman finds of objects, of pottery, and other things, together with a few words about the main results, will no doubt prove of interest. A rapid sketch may, therefore, not be out of place on this occasion. The fort of Mancunium, which was erected on a rocky eminence in the elbow of Medlock and Irwell at Castlefield, was probably first erected in the time of Petilius Cerealis, between 71–75 A.D., and further strengthened during the time of Julius Agricola. But long before it was held by the Romans it is proved, by the recent discovery of flint scrapers and a large monolith of brown sandstone, that there existed on its heights a Neolithic settlement. There is also every probability that it must have been held by some local Brythonic people before their stockaded stronghold was wrested from them by the Roman invaders. This *castrum* was really only a third-class fort, such as we see at Hadrian's Roman Wall, and held by a cohort of Frisians and some Portuguese troops. A tile of the second legion, stationed in Chester, has also been discovered, and the two named cohorts were probably attached to this legion. It was a square-built tower, according to Leland, who saw its ruins in 1540. The eastern and western walls measured one hundred and forty yards each in length, and the northern and southern walls one hundred and

seventy-five yards, forming a parallelogram of five acres. The walls were seven feet thick, and the structure of the foundation is shown on the plan which is exhibited. On its southern side we have the hypocaust or Roman bath, and the altar, erected to Fortuna Conservatrix by Senecianus Martius, an officer of the sixth legion (stationed at York), now in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, and most probably placed at the bath by him. There is evidence to show that the hypocaust was rebuilt on an older one. On the west side, outside the wall, was the cemetery, and many cinerary urns were found there at various times. On the west side the fort was protected by a morass, and on the northern side the existence of a series of fosses and ramparts has been demonstrated by the recent excavations. The road to Ribchester issued at the northern gate, near Collier Street, where a drain was discovered, and also a paved road, made of large blocks of millstone grit, cemented by mortar. Traces of the road to Slack or Cambodunum and to Buxton or Aquæ and some other vicinal roads have been also laid bare, and the successive extension of the Brito-Roman town is shown by the discovery of two *botontini* at Trafford Street and Knot Mill Station, which later on were traversed by Roman roads. The Brito-Roman town appears to have extended to Quay Street, and been circumscribed by the Tib, Irwell, and Medlock. The Medlock then reached up to Hewitt Street and the Irwell approached Water Street. When the Romans came they found the area between the northern wall to Camp Street covered with turfy bogs, heath, and bracken grown with birch, alder, and willow, while on the more clayey soil throve oak and underwood. The wild boar was then hunted here, and we have the tusks preserved from Castlefield. Charcoal was then

largely used, but also mineral coal, and the existence of the iron-smelter is proved by the presence of iron slack; the potter also has left behind traces of his trade, and brickmaking went on at Castlefield. The lime was obtained from Ardwick, the block of millstone grit from Blackstone Edge, and the building stone for the castle from the red sandstone at Castlefield and Collyhurst. In Alport no Roman remains have been found, but from the Castlefield up to Quay Street the ground has proved to abound with such remains, and it appears the Romans utilised also the area on the other side of the Medlock along the Chester Road, where objects have been discovered at the corner of Great Jackson Street. An inscribed tile was found in April in Ivy Street, but snatched up by some workman; it might have thrown more light on the builders of the *castrum*. A beautiful ornamental vase, eight inches high, six inches wide, was found in March at Knot Mill Station, with an inscription around, but was captured by some boys and unfortunately demolished. The Samian ware is very abundant, and many potters' marks and graffitti or names scratched in have been found. The Upchurch ware is also well represented; of Castor ware only two specimens have been met with. Amphoræ and Mortaria are numerous. They also had glass, blue and green, and flat window-glass. Many iron nails were found, and a leaden nail, such as were used for fixing ornamental mouldings of terra-cotta or *antefexes*. As a curiosity some red human hair may be mentioned, a piece of wild boar's fat, and a piece of brown tanned goatskin, and many other objects too numerous to describe. Unfortunately, no foundation of public or private buildings have come to light. Inscriptions or altars, so far, are absent amongst the finds. There is no doubt that

Roman remains in Deansgate are to be met with at every step within the area described, and it behoves members to keep a keen lookout, for if the opportunities are neglected now, when the whole of lower Deansgate is uprooted and entirely rebuilt, the chances for fresh discoveries will be gone for ever."

Mr. Charles Roeder exhibited a most interesting collection of Roman pottery, glass, tiles, amphoræ, and other remains recently discovered by him at Castlefield and Alport Town, Manchester.

Mr. J. J. Phelps exhibited many beautiful drawings of ornamental Samian pottery discovered in the same locality by Mr. Roeder.

Many other objects of antiquarian interest were shown. They included a collection of arms lent by Mr. Alfred Darbyshire, F.S.A., and Mr. J. R. Knott.

Ancient Peruvian vases and textile fabrics from Inca tombs, by Mr. and Miss Smithies.

Mr. N. Heywood exhibited a series of Roman silver coins, period about B.C. 50; an Egyptian god, found in a tomb (inscription from the Book of Ezra); mummy ring and scarab, containing part of the burial service from the Book of Ezra; Roman urn, late period, Yorkshire; Buddha holding the lotus-flower; and a Chinese god.

Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A., exhibited a curious collection of shell dresses and personal ornaments from the South Sea Islands, Africa, Australia, &c., and specimens of Egyptian and Peruvian mummy cloths.

The following were exhibited by Mr. J. N. Ogden: Fifty £2 and two-guinea pieces, period from Queen Anne to George III.; thirty-two £5 and five-guinea pieces, period from Queen Anne to William IV.; fifty-two guineas; one case of twenty guineas; one case of twelve guineas; antique gold snuff-box; one gold cigarette case,

mounted in diamonds; one case of jubilee coins; six fine miniatures, by Sir George Newton, painter in ordinary to their majesties, William IV. and Queen Adelaide; one moss agate box; eight carved ivories; one onyx cup and saucer from the Hailstone collection; one onyx bust, and fifty-six war medals.

The selection of book-plates shown by Mr. Thomas Parker, of Oldham, included dated specimens ranging from 1659 to 1768, amongst which we may mention the beautifully mantled example of Thomas Millington, 1703, and the quaint gift-plate of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, dated 1704. The pictorial section included several of an antiquarian character, and others engraved by Bartolozzi, Bewick, Howitt, Skinner, and W. Bell Scott. In the ladies' division was the charming plate of Anna Damer, and the roughly executed one engraved for her own use by Selina, countess of Huntingdon. The other branches selected and shown were book-piles, library interiors, Stuart and early armorial, Chippendale, recent, and the *ex-libris* of eminent and local celebrities. The latter included a proof specimen, printed in red and with large margins, of the rare book-plate of Thomas Barritt, the well-known Manchester antiquary, dated 1794, the property of the Free Library of the borough of Oldham. Barritt is represented with folded arms, evidently proud of the relics he is guarding.

Mr. Albert Nicholson exhibited the following: "Furness Abbey," water-colour drawing, by Thomas Hearne; "Windmills, Walton, near Liverpool," sepia drawing, by N. G. Philips; "Warrington Old Bridge, 1798," sepia drawing, by Donner Serres; "St. Ann's Square, about 1850," water-colour drawing, by Clennel; "Mr. Norrys' House, St. Ann's Square, 1760," reed-pen drawing,

"Brereton Hall, Cheshire," lithograph; Zulu bridal dress; Indian dagger; large folio portraits (of local gentlemen), many of great rarity.

An object of special interest to those who are concerned with the history of Manchester newspapers was exhibited by Mr. R. Milne-Redhead. It was a silver vase presented in 1777 to Mr. Joseph Harrop, who founded the *Manchester Mercury* in 1752. An inscription on the vase tells that it was the gift of Mr. Harrop's friends as "an acknowledgment of the service he has done by his early and useful intelligence." Portraits of Mr. Harrop and of his son and grandson were likewise contributed by Mr. Milne-Redhead.

During the evening, under the kind direction of Mr. John Wilcock, some excellent music was furnished by Madam Weiser, Miss Stella Weiser, Mr. Percy H. Sandiford, and Mr. Herbert Yates; Mr. R. H. Minshall being responsible for some humourous sketches.

Friday, January 13th, 1899.

The monthly meeting was held at the Chetham Library, Mr. J. Holme Nicholson (President) in the chair.

The President, having drawn attention to the recent death of Mr. T. Letherbrow, the Hon. Treasurer of the Society, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. C. W. Sutton, supported by Mr. Albert Nicholson, and carried unanimously:—

"The members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society desire to place on record their sense of the great loss which they have sustained by the death of their respected Treasurer, Mr. Thomas Letherbrow, who had been a member of the Society since December, 1885, and who had filled the office of Treasurer from January,

1889, to within a few weeks of his death. Mr. Letherbrow had won the esteem and confidence of all with whom he had been associated, whether in business, in social intercourse, or in the inner circle of friends drawn towards him by congenial tastes and pursuits. He was constant in his attendance at the meetings of the Society and of the Council, and his literary and artistic contributions added value to their published proceedings. His services as Honorary Treasurer were characterised by a close and efficient discharge of the duties of the office, and his intercourse with his fellow-members was marked by an unfailing courtesy.

"That the President be requested to communicate the foregoing resolution to Mrs. Letherbrow, and to offer to her and her family the respectful condolences of the Society on their irreparable loss."

The kindness and generosity of Mr. Letherbrow, as well as his artistic capabilities, were referred to by several members, and Mr. G. C. Yates (Hon. Secretary) suggested that a collection of his drawings and etchings should be brought together.

Mr. Yates exhibited an interesting album, filled with illustrated envelopes sent to him through the post during the last few years by Mr. Thomas Letherbrow. He also exhibited stone celts from Ireland and the Swiss lake dwellings.

Mr. W. D. Webster sent for exhibition a stone celt and a perforated stone club from New Guinea, also a stone axe from Hayti.

Dr. Renaud followed with a paper on "Biddulph Hall and Church." (See page 62.)

Mr. D. F. Howorth contributed a description, with examples, of the coinage of the Isle of Man. (See page 68.)

APPENDIX I.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUITIES AND BIOGRAPHY. PUBLICATIONS DURING 1898.

BY JOHN HIBBERT SWANN

(OF THE FREE REFERENCE LIBRARY, MANCHESTER).

Addy (Sidney Oldall). The Evolution of the English House. London: Swan, Sonnenschien, & Co., 1898. 12mo, pp. xxviii, 223. *Illustrated. Social England Series.*

Among the illustrations are many Lancashire and Cheshire examples.

Andrew (Samuel). Old John Heywood, of Saddleworth. *Trans. Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Society*, vol. xv., pp. 73-80.

Ashton (Thomas). Obituary Notice. *Manchester Guardian*, January 22nd, pp. 7-8.

Astle (William). See *Cheshire Notes and Queries.*

[Axon (W. E. A.)] An old Manchester Record. [Folio MS. kept by several of the Mosley family, chiefly in their capacity as magistrates, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.] *Manchester Guardian*, August 19th. Reprinted in the *Manchester Public Free Libraries Quarterly Record*, vol. ii., No. 2, pp. 71-72. *The original record (with transcript) is now in the Free Reference Library.*

Ball (T. Stanley). History and Description of the Regalia and Plate of the Borough of Preston. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 1-46. *Illustrated.*

Barton. Centenary of the Mission of All Saints. *Harvest*, vol. xi., pp. 292-295. *Illustrated.*

Birrell (Augustine). Sir Frank Lockwood: a Biographical Sketch. London: Smith, Elder, & Co., 1898. 8vo, pp. [8]. 226. *Portraits and facsimiles.*

Lockwood was connected with Manchester and attended the Grammar School.

Brierley (Henry). *See* Lancashire Parish Register Society, 1.

Brockbank (J.) Jubilee of the Lancashire Hussars, and visit of the Prince of Wales, May, 1898. The Gerard Family and Lancashire Hussars. St. Helens, sm. 8vo. *Illustrated.*

Cash (Sarah). See *Cheshire Notes and Queries.*

Cheshire Notes and Queries. Edited by William Astle. Stockport: Swain & Co., 1898. 4to, vol. iii.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS—The Cheshire Archers. Cheshire in 1822, by the Editor The Church of St. Helena: the Parochial Church of Witton, Northwich [illustrated], by John Weston. Cheshire Executions, by George Gleave. The Hundred of Caldy [map]. Ruins of Harden Hall, near Stockport [illustrated], by Sarah Cash. Over Peover Parish Church, by Rev. H. W. Trott (continued). Cheshire Ferries, by O. V. Yates. Gleanings and Jottings in Knutsford [illustrated], by T. Colley. Stonehewer-Stonyer-Stanier: an Old Cheshire family settled at Barleyford. by Thomas Cooper. Sandbach sixty years ago, by O. V. Yates. Yeomanry Cavalry: origin of the Corps in Cheshire and Lancashire, by T. Colley. A Cheshire Martyr [Rev. George Marsh]. Sir Walter Scott and Cheshire, by T. Colley. The Legend of the Mere of Capesthorne. The Plague in Cheshire, by O. V. Yates. The Dones of Utkinton [portraits], by Sarah Cash. Middlewich Church. Desultory Notes on Lyme, Cheshire. Cheshire's Deserted Village [Havannah]. Sandbach Crosses, by O. V. Yates. Bygone Cheshire; the Old Woman of Oakmere, by Sarah Cash. The Highlanders in Macclesfield during '45. Fonts and Font-lore [illustrated]. Historical and Antiquarian Notes relating to the Parishes of Wilmslow and Alderley, by Thomas Newbigging. Judge Bradshaw and the Execution of Charles I. Cheshire Churches, by Rev. W. Laycock.

Chesshyre (Sir John). A Reprint of the Rules and Orders made by Sir John Chesshyre, knight, for the Library founded by him at Halton in the County of Cheshire, together with his Catalogue of Books placed by him in the same. . . To which is prefixed a Preface by the Librarian, the Rev. G. D. Wray, M.A., vicar of Halton. [ ] 1898. 12mo, pp. [18].

Chetham Society, n.s., 38, 39, 40. The Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey of the Premonstratensian Order. Printed from the original in the possession of Thomas Brooks, F.S.A., of Armitage Bridge, near Huddersfield. Transcribed and edited by William Farrer. [Manch.] 1898. 4to, vol. i., pts. i and ii.; vol. ii., pt. i.

——— n.s., 41. Minutes of the Bury Presbyterian Classis, 1647–1657. Edited by William A. Shaw, M.A. Part ii. [Manchester] 1898. Sm. 4to. *Appendices:* 1. *Nottingham Classis Minutes*, 1656-60; 2. *Cornwall Classis Minutes*, 1655-58; 3. *Cambridge Classis Minutes*, 1658-58; 4. *An account of the ministers mentioned in the Bury Minutes.*

Close Rolls. Calendar of the Close Rolls preserved in the Public Record Office. Prepared under the superintendence of the Deputy Keeper of the Records. [Edward II., 1323–1327; Edward III., 1333–1337.] London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1898. 8vo, 2 vols.

Contain Lancashire and Cheshire references.

Coldhurst [Anabaptist] Chapel [Manchester]. *Manchester Evening News*, December 8th, 1898, p. 5.

Collingwood (Stuart Dodgson, B.A.). The Life and Letters of Lewis Carroll (Rev. C. L. Dodgson). London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1898. 8vo, pp. xx, 448. *Portraits and illustrations.*

"Lewis Carroll" was born at Daresbury (about seven miles from Warrington), his father being then incumbent of the parish.

Collingwood (W. G., M.A.) *See* Cowper (H. S., F.S.A.).

Compton (Theodore). The Life and Correspondence of the Reverend John Clowes, M.A., formerly Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and for sixty-two years the rector of St. John's Church, Manchester Third edition, revised. London: James Spiers, 1898. 8vo, pp. [x]. 284. *Portrait.*

Cowper (H. S., F.S.A.). Ancient and County Bridges and Fords in Lancashire-North-of-the-Sands. *Trans. of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiq. and Archæol. Society*, vol. xv., pt. i., pp. 128-130.

——— Illustrations of Old Fashions and Obsolete Contrivances in Lakeland. *Trans. of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiq. and Archæol. Society*, vol. xv., pt. i., pp. 252-284. *Illustrated.*

——— and Collingwood (W. G., M.A.). Reports on Excavations at Springs Bloomery, near Coniston Hall, Lancashire, with Notes on the probable age of the Furness Bloomeries. *Trans. of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiq. and Archæol. Society*, vol. xv., pt. i., pp. 211-228.

Cox (Edward W.). Antiquities of Storeton, in Wirral. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 47-70. *Illustrated.*

——— Architectural History of Bebington Church. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 97-122.

——— Leaves from an Antiquary's Note-book. (1) Liverpool Streets; (2) St. George's Church, Liverpool; (3) Bebington Pastures. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 178-184.

Credland (William Robert). Days Off. Pen and pencil sketches in Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire, and elsewhere. With drawings by Bessie Duval and N. R. Dean. Manchester: Printed for the Author by Thomas Sowler & Sons Limited, 1898. 8vo, pp. xvi, 375.

CONTENTS.—A farm in the Fens. Ashbourne. Ilam. Dove Dale and Beresford Dale. Tabley Hall and the way thither. Alderley Edge and the Stanleys. Boggart Hole Clough. Delamere and Nixon, the prophet. Alton Towers and round about them. Great Budworth and Marbury Hall. In the land of Burns. Harrogate and Knaresborough. Arley Hall. Towneley Hall. Haworth and the Brontës. Ordsall Hall. Wilmslow. Wilmslow and its neighbourhood. Lancashire in the Record Reign.

Crisp (Frederick Arthur). *See* Howard (Joseph Jackson).

Crommelin (May). A Wych Town [Nantwich] and its surroundings. *Leisure Hour*, 1898, pp. 593-598. *Illustrated.*

Darby (Very Rev. John L., D.D.). Chester Cathedral. Illustrated by Herbert Railton. London: Isbister & Co., 1898. 12mo, pp. 66.

Dean (John). The Ancient Lords of Middleton. Part i. *Trans. Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Society*, vol. xv., pp. 122-174. *Illustrations, and Pedigree of Middleton Family.*

Dolan (Dom Gilbert, O.S.B.). Lancashire and the Benedictines. (With subsequent additions by Joseph Gillow.) *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 123-170. *Portrait of Edward Ambrose Barlow.*

Earwaker (J. P., M.A., F.S.A.), *editor*. Charters and Deeds relative to the Standish Family, of Standish and Duxbury, co. Lancaster. Manchester: Albert Sutton [1898]. 4to, pp. [2]. 90. *Only one hundred and six copies printed. Originally printed in "Local Gleanings."*

——— The History of the Church and Parish of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester; together with an account of the new church of St. Mary-without-the-Walls. Edited by Rupert H. Morris, D.D., F.S.A. London: Love and Wyman, 1898. 4to, pp. vi [2]. 304. *Illustrated.*

Falkner (Robert). See *Manchester City News.*

Farrer (William). *See* Chetham Society, n.s., 38, 39, 40.

Ferguson (Chancellor R. S., F.S.A., M.A.). Communion Cup and Cover from Cartmel Fell Chapel. *Trans. of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiq. and Archæol. Society*, vol. xv., part i., pp. 247-249. *Illustrated.*

Fishwick (Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A.). Disputed Boundary in Ashworth. (3 Edward VI., 1548-49.) *Trans. Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Society*, vol. xv., pp. 63-72.

——— Places in Lancashire Destroyed by the Sea. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 87-96.

Folkard (Henry Tennyson, F.S.A.). Lancashire Books. A list of books and pamphlets relating to the County Palatine of Lancaster, preserved in the Reference Department of the Wigan Free Public Library. (Twenty-five copies only, detached from the General Catalogue.) Wigan: R. Platt, 1898. 4to, pp. 42. *Interleaved.*

——— Wigan: an Historical Sketch, with a note on its Free Public Library: for the meeting of the Library Association on August 23rd, 1898. Wigan, 1898. 8vo, pp. [2]. 20. *Three hundred copies printed for presentation only.*

Gairdner (James) and Brodie (R. H.), *editors*. Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, of the reign of Henry VIII. Preserved in the Public Record Office, the British Museum, and elsewhere in England. Vol. xvi. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1898. 8vo.

Contains numerous Chester references.

Garstang (John). Lancashire during the Roman Occupation. *Manchester Courier*, July 21st, September 3rd, October 12th.

Gaythorpe (Harper). Prehistoric Implements in Furness. *Trans. of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiq. and Archæol. Society*, vol. xv., pt. i., pp. 161-171. *Illustrated.*

Gill (Richard). Methodism in Manchester: Notes on [Great Bridgewater Street] Chapel. *Manchester Weekly Times*, May 13th, June 3rd, 17th.

——— See also *Manchester City News.*

Gillow (Joseph). *See* Dolan (Dom Gilbert).

Gladstone (Rt. Hon. William Ewart). In addition to the following biographies, &c., innumerable newspaper and magazine articles appeared after his death.

Jerrold (Walter). W. E. Gladstone, England's Great Commoner. New edition, revised. London: Partridge. 8vo, pp. 168

Lucy (H.W.). The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone: a study from life. New edition. London: W. A. Allen. 8vo, pp. 268. *Portrait.*

McCarthy (Justin). The Story of Gladstone's Life. Edinburgh: Black. 8vo, pp. 466. *Illustrated.*

Macneill (J. G. Swift). W. E. Gladstone: anecdotes and reminiscences. London: Sonnenschein. 8vo, pp. 112.

Ritchie (J. Ewing). The real Gladstone: an anecdotal biography. London: Fisher Unwin. 8vo, pp. 296.

Smith (George Barnett). The Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone. New edition. London: Ward & Lock. 8vo, pp. 658.

Stead (W. T.). Gladstone, 1809–1898: a character sketch. London: *Review of Reviews* Office. 8vo, pp. 84. *Illustrated.*

Tollemache (L. A.). Talks with Mr. Gladstone. London: Arnold. 8vo, pp. 182.

Williamson (David), *editor.* William Ewart Gladstone: statesman and scholar. London: Ward & Lock. 8vo, pp. 450. *Illustrated.*

Gleave (George). See *Cheshire Notes and Queries.*

Gordon (W. J.). Liverpool and its Docks. *Leisure Hour*, 1898, pp. 656-663. *Illustrated.*

Hardy (William John, F.S.A.), *editor.* Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reign of William and Mary. May, 1690—October, 1691. Preserved in the Public Record Office. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1898. 8vo.

Contains Lancashire and Cheshire references.

Harrison (Henry). The Place-Names of the Liverpool District; or, the History and Meaning of the Local and River Names of South-west Lancashire and of Wirral. London: Elliot Stock, 1898. 12mo, pp. 104.

Harrison (William). Ancient Beacons of Lancashire and Cheshire. *Trans. Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Society*, vol. xv., pp. 16-48. *Map.*

Heywood (Nathan). The Stycas of North Humbria. *Trans. Lanc. and Ches. Antiq. Society*, vol. xv., pp. 81-99.

Howard (Joseph Jackson, LL.D.) and Crisp (Frederick Arthur). Visitation of England and Wales. Vol. vi. Privately printed, 1898. Fol.

Includes the following pedigrees: Cowper-Essex, of Yewfield Castle (formerly High House), co. Lancaster. Ollivant, formerly of Hutton-in-the-Wold, co. Cumberland. Wilson, of Sandbach, co. Chester. Lockett, of The Hollies, Over, co. Chester. Whitby. Starkie, of Huntroyde, co. Lancaster.

Hughes (T. Cann, M.A.) and Roper (W. O., F.S.A.). The Corporate Insignia, Plate, and Charters of Lancaster. *Archæol. Journal*, second series, vol. v., pp. 353-366. *Illustrations and facsimiles.*

Irvine (W. F.). *See* Record Society, vol. 37.

Jacson (Catherine). Formby Reminiscences. By the author of "Desultory Retracings." Second edition. London: W. Gardner. 8vo, pp. 170. *Illustrated.*

Jerrold (Walter). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

Jones (J. Ifano). Richard Roberts, the Welsh inventor. [With portrait.] [*Cardiff*] *Public Library Journal*, No. 8, October, pp. 157-158.

Lancashire Parish Register Society. The Registers of the Parish Church of Bury. . . Christenings, Burials, and Weddings, 1590 to 1616. Transcribed and edited by the Rev. W. J. Löwenberg and Henry Brierley. Rochdale: James Clegg, 1898. 8vo, pp. viii, 248. Vol. i.

Langton (David Herbert). A History of the Parish of Flixton (Lancashire), comprising the Townships of Flixton and Urmston, with a short sketch of the adjoining Hamlet of Davyhulme. Manchester: Taylor, Garnett, Evans, & Co., 1898. 8vo, pp. 160. *Illustrated.*

Lawson (Richard). A History of Flixton, Urmston, and Davyhulme. Urmston [Manchester printed]: R. Lawson, 1898. 8vo, pp. 152. *Illustrated.*

Leach (Rev. Charles, D.D.). Manchester Congregationalism: its rise and progress. With special reference to that side of it now represented by Cavendish Chapel. Cavendish Chapel jubilee volume. London: Woodford, Fawcett, & Co., 1898. 8vo, pp. 82. *Illustrations and portrait.*

Leary (Frederick). The Earl of Chester's Regiment of Yeomanry Cavalry: its Formation and Services, 1797 to 1897. Edinburgh: Privately printed at the Ballantyne Press, 1898. 8vo, pp. viii, 312. *Portraits and illustrations.*

Löwenberg (Rev. W. J.). *See* Lancashire Parish Register Society, I.

Lucy (H. W.). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

McCarthy (Justin). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

Macneill (J. G. Swift). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

Madeley (Charles). Chesshyre's Library, Halton. *Trans. Historic Society of Lanc. and Ches.*, n.s., vol. xiii., pp. 176-177.

Manchester City News. The following articles have appeared during 1893:—

Methodism in Manchester, iii., by Richard Gill (January 1st). The Concert Hall; condition of Manchester before 1845, by Robert Falkner. Pilgrimages in Cheshire, by Fletcher Moss (July 21st, October 15th, 29th, November 19th, December 3rd, 17th, 31st). John Fox Turner: obituary notice (July 16th). Vanishing Shudehill, by Robert Falkner (December 31st).

Manchester Faces and Places. Vol. ix. Birmingham: J. G. Hammond, & Co. Ltd. Among the articles are the following (illustrated):—

Norton Priory. Vale Royal. Brereton Church. Manchester Grammar School. Bold Old Hall. Rode Hall. Great Bridgewater Street Chapel, Manchester. Pleasington Old Hall. Harrock Hall. Worden Hall. Middlewich Church. Prestbury Church.

Manchester Infirmary. Copy of a Petition to Parliament to amend the Title to the Infirmary lands, 1792. *Manchester Public Free Libraries Quarterly Record.* Vol. ii., No. 1, pp. 31-32.

Mark (John). Genealogy of the Family of Mark or Marke, county of Cumberland. Pedigree and arms of the Bowscale branch of the family from which is descended John Mark, esquire, now residing at Greystoke, West Didsbury. . . To which is added a copy of an old vellum roll, compiled in 1746, for Jacob Mark, of Dublin. . . Also a collection of biographical excerpts and appendix of genealogical notes, compiled by John Yarker. (Privately printed.) Manchester: Palmer, Howe, & Co., 1890. 4to, pp. xii, 274. *Portraits and folding plates.*

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Ritchie (J. Ewing). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

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Mr. Roeder has presented a copy of this article, with a photograph, and various letters con cerning Mosley, to the Free Reference Library, Manchester.

Roper (W. O., F.S.A.). *See* Hughes (T. Cann).

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Smith (Geo. Barnett). *See* Gladstone (W.E.).

Stanning (J. H., M.A.). *See* Record Society, vol. 36.

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Tollemache (L. A.). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

Trott (Rev. H. W.). See *Cheshire Notes and Queries.*

Turner (John Fox). Obituary Notice. *Manchester Guardian*, July 11th, p. 7.

Weston (John). See *Cheshire Notes and Queries.*

Williamson (David). *See* Gladstone (W. E.).

Wilson (W. Forshaw). *See* Shaw (Geo. T.).

Withington (Lothrop). *See* Mather (Rev. Samuel).

Wray (Rev. G. D., M.A.). *See* Chesshyre (Sir John).

Yarker (John). *See* Mark (John).

"DICTIONARY OF NATIONAL BIOGRAPHY."

Following Lancashire and Cheshire persons [natives or closely connected]:—

Vol. 53: James Smith, merchant (1805–1872); Jeremiah Smith, master of Manchester Grammar School (1771–1854); Jeremiah Finch Smith (1815–1895); James Hicks Smith, barrister-at-law (1822–1881); Robert Angus Smith, chemist (1817–1884); William Smith, herald (1550?–1618); William Smith, LL.D., actuary and translator of Fichte (1816–1896); William Smyth, professor of modern history at Cambridge (1765–1849); Thomas Sorocold, divine (1561–1617); Edward Askew Southern, actor (1826–1881); Benjamin Edward Spence, sculptor (1822–1866); Myles Standish, colonist (1584?–1656).

Vol. 54: Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, dean of Westminster (1815–1881); Charlotte Stanley, countess of Derby (1599–1664); Edward Stanley, first baron Monteagle (1460?–1523); Edward Stanley, third earl of Derby (1508–1572); Edward Stanley, bishop of Norwich (1779–1849); Edward George Geoffrey Smith Stanley, fourteenth earl of Derby (1799–1869); Edward Henry Stanley, fifteenth earl of Derby (1826–1893); Edward John Stanley, second baron Stanley of Alderley (1802–1869); Henrietta Maria Stanley, lady Stanley of Alderley (1807–1895); Edward Smith Stanley, thirteenth earl of Derby (1775–1851); Ferdinando Stanley, fifth earl of Derby (1559?–1594); Henry Stanley, fourth earl of Derby (1531–1593); James Stanley, bishop of Ely (1465?–1515); James Stanley, seventh earl of Derby (1607–1651); Thomas Stanley, first earl of Derby (1435?–1504); Sir William Stanley, adventurer (1548–1630); Ralph Starkey, archivist (*d.* 1628); Thomas Starkey, writer (1499?–1538); Thomas Starkie, legal writer (1782–1849); Richard Steele or Steel, nonconformist divine (1629–1692); William Steele, lord chancellor of Ireland (*d.* 1680); George Stephens, runic archæologist (1813–1895); Joseph Rayner Stephens, social reformer (1805–1879); James Stephenson, engraver (1808–1886); Balfour Stewart, physicist and meteorologist (1828–1887); John Stockdale, publisher (1749?–1814); Owen Stockton, Puritan divine (1630–1680); Frank Stone, painter (1800–1859); Joshua Stopford, divine (1636–1675).

Vol. 55: Hugh Stowell, divine (1799–1865); William Hendry Stowell, dissenting divine (1800–1858); Nicholas Stratford, bishop of Chester (1633–1707); George Stubbs, animal painter and anatomist (1724–1806); George Towneley Stubbs, engraver (1756–1815); William Sturgeon, electrician (1783–1850); Thomas Sutcliffe, adventurer (1790?–1849); Sir Richard Sutton, co-founder of Brasenose College, Oxford (*d.* 1524); Charles Swain, poet (1801–1874); Charles Anthony Swainson, theologian (1820–1887); William Swainson, naturalist (1789–1855); William Swainson, first attorney-general of New Zealand (1809–1883); John Swinton, historian and antiquary (1703–1777); Thomas Talbot, antiquary (*fl.* 1580); Sir Banastre Tarleton, general (1754–1833);

Alexander Norman Tate, analytical chemist (1837–1892); William Tate, portrait painter (1750?–1806); Richard Tattersall, founder of "Tattersall's" (1724–1795); John Taylor, dissenting divine and hebraist (1694–1761); John Edward Taylor, founder of the *Manchester Guardian* (1791–1844); John Ellor Taylor, popular science writer (1837–1895); Philip Meadows Taylor, Indian officer and novelist (1808–1876); Zachary Taylor, the "Lancashire Levite" (1635–1705).

Vol. 56: John Hamilton Thom, Unitarian divine (1808–1894); Ernest Chester Thomas, bibliographer (1850–1892); Owen Thomas, Calvinistic Methodist minister (1812–1891); Thomas Thomasson, manufacturer and political economist (1808–1876); George Thompson, anti-slavery advocate (1804–1878); Gilbert Thompson, physician (1728–1803); John Thompson, wood-engraver (1785–1866); Thomas Thornycroft, sculptor (1815–1885); Robert Thyer, Chetham librarian and editor of Butler's *Remains* (1709–1781); John Tilsley, Puritan divine (1614–1684); Charles H. Timperley, writer on typography (1794–1846?).

APPENDIX II.

SUBJECT INDEX TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY.

[CONTRACTIONS: *C. N. and Q., Cheshire Notes and Queries; D. N. B., Dictionary of National Biography; M. C. N., Manchester City News; M. F. and P., Manchester Faces and Places.*]

Alderley Notes *C. N. and Q.*
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Barton, Mission of All Saints *Barton*
Beacons, Lancashire and Cheshire *Harrison*
Bebington Church *Cox*, Pastures *Cox*
Benedictines and Lancashire *Dolan*
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Biography, Lancashire and Cheshire *Swann*
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UNIV. OF MICH.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council, in presenting the Sixteenth Annual Report to the members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, are happy in being able to state that, whilst the events of the past year present no especial features of interest, the Society has satisfactorily maintained its position at regards the number of its members, and that both its winter and summer meetings have been as well attended and have been no less interesting than heretofore.

MEMBERS.—Twenty-six new members have been elected during the past year, and eighteen have been lost by death, lesignation, and other causes. The total number of members is 331, made up of—

Ordinary Members	283
Life Members	43
Honorary Members	5

being an increase of eight members over last year.

WINTER MEETINGS.—During the year eight winter meetings have been held in the reading-room at Chetham's Hospital. On January 28th the annual meeting was held, when the reports of the Council and Treasurer were read, and the

officers for 1898 were elected. The following papers and short communications were read at the subsequent meetings, viz.:—

1898.
Jan. 28.—Annual Meeting.
Feb. 4.—Opening Address. By the President.
,, 4.—The Medieval Lords of Middleton. By Mr. John Dean.
Mar. 4.—The Ancient Crosses of Lancashire. By Mr. Henry Taylor.
April 1.—Recent Investigations on Roman Manchester. By Mr. Charles Roeder.
Oct. 7.—A Few Words on Pedigree Hunting. By the President.
,, 7.—Extracts from a Diary, dating from 1758. By Mr. Samuel Andrew.
Nov. 4.—Origin and History of English Church Architecture. By Mr. John Brooke, A.R.I.B.A.
Dec. 2.—On a Draught Map of Medieval Lancashire. By Mr. William Harrison.
,, 2.—A Visit to Two Picts' Eirde or Earth-houses in Aberdeenshire. By Mr. Thomas Kay, J.P.
,, 2.—Notes on the Domesday Survey between Ribble and Mersey. By Mr. William Farrer.
1899.
Jan. 13.—Biddulph Hall and Church. By Dr. Renaud, F.S.A.
,, 13.—Coinage of the Isle of Man. By Mr. D. F. Howorth, F.S.A. (Scot.)

SUMMER MEETINGS were held at the places and on the dates as in the following list:—

1898.
May 14.—Shrewsbury.
May 28 to June 6.—Some of the Old Belgian Cities.
,, 13.—Wardley Hall.
,, 18.—Owens College.
July 9.—Melandra Castle and Broadbottom Hall.
,, 11.—Flixton Church and Shaw Hall.
,, 23.—Castleshaw.
Aug. 13.—Vale Royal.
,, 22.—Kersal Cell.

At the meeting at Owens College an interesting collection of stone implements, weapons, dresses, &c., chiefly from New Guinea, was exhibited by Messrs. W. D. Webster, G. C. Yates, F.S.A., Charles Heape, and B. H. Mullen, M.A.;

and short addresses thereon were given by Professor Boyd Dawkins, F.R.S., Dr. Colley March, F.S.A., and Messrs. B. H. Mullen, M.A., and G. C. Yates, F.S.A.

The usual WINTER CONVERSAZIONE was held in the City Art Gallery, on the 7th December. The members were received in the Permanent Gallery by the President and his daughter, Mrs. Poynting, after which the chair was taken and Mr. Alfred Darbishire, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., gave a short address. A musical entertainment and recitations followed, given by Madame and Miss Stella Weiser, and Messrs. Percy H. Sandiford and R. H. Minshall. Mr. Herbert Yates accompanied at the pianoforte, and the whole was under the direction of Mr. John Wilcock. The tables and glass cases were filled with objects of archæological interest, a list of which is given in the Proceedings of the Society.

CONFERENCE OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.—The annual conference was held in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, on the 6th July. Our Society was again represented by Messrs. Alex. Brooke and C. C. Smith.

ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—The Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland held its annual meeting for 1898 at Lancaster, and honoured the two county societies, the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society and our own Society, by electing the President of the former a Vice-President of the archæological section and our own President the President of the historical section, and Professor Boyd Dawkins, one of our Vice-Presidents, a Vice-President of the same section. The president of the meeting of the Institute was also one of our members, Sir Henry H. Howorth. The meeting, which lasted from the 19th to the 26th July, was a very interesting one, and was largely

attended by members from all parts of the country, as well as from Lancaster and the district.

OBITUARY.—*Mr. Thomas Letherbrow:* By the death of Mr. Letherbrow the Society has lost one of its oldest and most valued members. Mr. Letherbrow became a member of the Society in December, 1885, and filled the office of Hon. Treasurer from January, 1889, to within a few weeks of his death, which took place on the 1st January of the present year, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. The obituary notices which appeared in the Manchester newspapers testified to the high esteem in which he was held by all with whom he had been associated, whether in business, in social intercourse, or in the inner circle of friends drawn towards him by congenial tastes and pursuits. He was constant in his attendance at the meetings of the Society and of the Council, and his literary and artistic contributions added value to its published proceedings. His services as Honorary Treasurer were characterised by a close and efficient discharge of the duties of the office, and his intercourse with his fellow members was marked by an unfailing courtesy. His remains were laid to rest in the churchyard, at Disley, on the 4th January, in the presence of many members of this Society, as well as of a large number of other friends.

The Earl of Lathom: Edward Bootle Wilbraham, first earl of Lathom, died at Lathom House, Ormskirk, on November 19th, 1898, aged sixty-one. He joined the Society on its foundation in 1883.

Lord Newton died at his Cheshire seat, Lyme Hall, Disley, on December 16th, 1898, aged seventy. William John Legh, first Baron Newton, son of the late Mr. William Legh, Brymbo, Denbighshire, was born on December 19th, 1828, educated at Rugby, and entered the army in 1848. He served in the 21st Fusiliers in the Crimean war, and retired with the rank of captain. On the termination of his military career, he entered Parliament as one of the

Conservative members for South Lancashire in 1859, and represented that constituency till 1865, when Mr. Gladstone gained the seat. At the general election in 1868, Mr. Legh was returned unopposed as one of two Conservative members for East Cheshire, which county he represented till 1885. He was created Baron Newton, of Newton-in-Makerfield (peerage of the United Kingdom), in 1892. Lord Newton was a deputy-lieutenant for Cheshire and Lancashire, and honorary colonel of the 4th Volunteer Battalion Cheshire Regiment (V.D.). In 1856, Lord Newton married Emily Jane, daughter of the late Ven. Charles Nourse Wodehouse, archdeacon of Norwich, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. The deceased peer, although the first lord, was the lineal descendant of a family whose records go back to the times of the Edwards and Henrys. He joined the Society in 1889. The members enjoyed an interesting visit to his beautiful seat, Lyme Park, on August 7th, 1887.

Archdeacon Anson: The Rev. George Henry Greville Anson, M.A., rector of Birch-in-Rusholme for fifty-two years, and for twenty years archdeacon of Manchester, died on February 8th, 1898. The archdeacon was a member of a family residing for many generations in Stafford, several of whom, including Admiral George Anson, served their country with considerable distinction. The archdeacon was the third son of General Sir William Anson, younger brother of the first Viscount Anson, and uncle of Thomas William, first earl of Lichfield. His mother was Lousia Frances Mary, only daughter of Mr. John Dickenson, and great granddaughter of Mr. John Dickenson, an eminent Manchester merchant in the first half of the last century, who purchased the Birch Hall estate in 1745, and who entertained Prince Charles, "the Young Pretender," on his visit to Manchester in that year, at his town residence in Market Stead Lane. After a successful career at Eton and Oxford, Mr. Anson was ordained in 1843, and held a curacy at Leeds. On the resignation of the Rev.

George Dugard, Mr. Anson was nominated, in June, 1846, by his eldest brother, the late Sir J. W. H. Anson, to the incumbency of the ancient chapelry of St. James's, Birch-in-Rusholme, founded by the Birch family between 1579 and 1595, and two years afterwards married the eldest daughter of Dr. Hook, who survives him. From his accession to the incumbency may be dated the origin of the still picturesque Birch Church (erected nearly on the site of the ancient Birch Chapel), which was consecrated by Dr. John B. Sumner on July 1st, 1846. To a very great extent this church owed its erection to the munificence of the late archdeacon and his brother, Sir J. W. H. Anson. Since he first came to Birch, it is scarcely necessary to say that St. James's has become the mother church to several important churches and new ecclesiastical districts on the south side of Manchester, in all which the archdeacon took the deepest interest. Mr. Anson, outside work in connection with the Southern Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital, did not take much active part in public affairs, although he was a governor of the Hulme Trust Estates and a feoffee of Chetham College and Library. His interests were mainly ecclesiastical. For many years he was examining chaplain, first to Bishop Lee, and afterwards to Bishop Fraser. Contemporaneously with the elevation of Dr. Fraser to the see of Manchester, Mr. Gladstone nominated the then archdeacon of Manchester (Dr. Durnford) to the see of Chichester. The vacancy thus caused in the archdeaconry was filled up by the Premier's appointment to that office of the rector of Birch. How admirably he discharged his archidiaconal duties was not only well known to the clergy and laity of the various rural deaneries in the archdeaconry of Manchester, but throughout the diocese. His visitation charges, like the man himself, were simple and unpretentious, and full of kindness. On the death of Canon Gibson, in the summer of 1882, Bishop Fraser appointed Archdeacon Anson to a residentiary canonry in the cathedral. His time, however, as canon residentiary was short-lived.

The death of Canon Bently, in the summer of 1884, left him, under the Manchester Rectory Division Act, 1850, the alternative of resigning Birch Rectory and taking St. Matthew's Rectory, Campfield, or resigning his canonry. With his strong family and other associations at Birch, it was no surprise to his friends that he elected to take the last-named course. In 1890 he came to the conclusion that the office of archdeacon should be filled by a younger man, and resigned.

Mr. Frank Andrew, J.P., joined the Society in 1883, and died at his residence, Ashton-under-Lyne, on October 3rd, 1898. He took a keen interest in the history and antiquities of Lancashire, and collected a valuable library, which embraced many works on local history. He was justice of the peace for the county of Lancaster.

Mr. Alfred Henderson died on October 16th, 1898, aged sixty-eight. He was registrar of births and deaths for the Lever District of the Bolton Union. Mr. Henderson joined the Society in 1892, and took part in many of the excursions and meetings.

Mr. George Armitage Southam died on September 18th, 1898. He was born on February 1st, 1843, at Salford, the son of a well-known surgeon, his mother being a daughter of Sir Elkanah Armitage. He was a director of the firm of Sir E. Armitage & Sons Limited, and took an active interest in philanthropic movements. He joined the Society in 1887.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.—The hearty thanks of the Society are due to the Feoffees of Chetham's Hospital for their continued kindness in allowing the use of the reading-room for the winter meetings and of a room for the meetings of the Council.

The thanks of the members are again due to Mr. Charles W. Sutton for editing the *Transactions;* to Mr. William Harrison, who kindly undertook the duties *pro tem.* of the

late Treasurer, Mr. T. Letherbrow, whose resignation in November last was a few weeks later followed by his lamented death; to Mr. G. C. Yates, F.S.A., the Honorary Secretary, and to the Auditors, Messrs. Faithwaite and Phelps.

In conclusion, the Council express the hope that a larger number of members will come forward with contributions of papers to the general meetings, as every year bears witness to the loss, from various causes, of members whose zealous labours in the past have greatly promoted the prosperity of the Society.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT FROM THE 27TH JANUARY, 1898, TO THE 25TH JANUARY, 1899.

Dr.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	17	18	11
Subscriptions, 250 at 10s. 6d.	131	5	0
Entrance Fees	6	6	0
Dividends on £200 Corporation Stock	5	11	2
Bank Interest	0	16	2
Sale of 11 volumes of *Transactions*	4	18	0
	£166	15	3

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
Expenses at Winter Meetings	5	4	0
,, Conversazione	13	13	0
,, Summer Meetings	8	3	6
Postages—Honorary Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor	9	12	10
Clerical Help to Honorary Secretary and Treasurer	8	8	0
Cheque Book	0	2	1
Bank Commission	2	2	0
Explorations at Deansgate, per C. Roeder	5	5	0
Photographs of Old Deanery	0	5	0
Fire Insurance	0	2	0
Printing—J. Roberts & Sons	4	15	0
Printing Volume xv. of *Transactions*—Richard Gill ...	103	0	0
Balance	6	2	10
	£166	15	3

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance, as above	£6	2	10
Manchester Corporation Stock	200	0	0
Books and Volumes of *Transactions*	50	0	0
	£256	2	10

Examined and found correct, January 25th, 1899.

J. R. FAITHWAITE,
JOS. J. PHELPS.

Appendix to Report.

RECENT EXCAVATIONS.

The following report on recent excavations in Lancashire was contributed to the *Manchester Courier*, February 16th, 1899, by Mr. John Garstang, B.A., and has since been revised by the writer:—

Roman Ribchester.

Excavations made upon this site in 1888 determined the direction of the south-west wall, the length—six hundred feet—of the north-west wall, and the direction of the north, east wall of the station; with the oakwork of a doorway through the northern corner. Except for an occasional faced stone lying loose, the stones encountered in these seven trenches were boulders, compactly fitted with clay the height intact being two feet to three feet and the thickness about six feet, a construction not necessarily typical of any period. At the foot of one piece of this walling, there

View of Roman Fosse, Ribchester; South-west Side.

was found a coin of the Emperor Nerva (A.D. 96-98), thus giving one limit to the date of building.

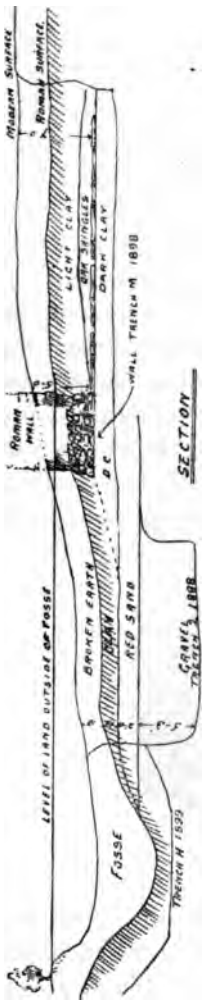
Excavations made during 1898 confirmed the direction of the north-east wall, the direction and length of the north-west wall, and the direction of the south-west wall. In addition, a

trench more to the south disclosed the wall to be turning, and a complete excavation of the vicinity confirmed the appearance; thus determining the position of the southern angle, and the length—four hundred and twenty-seven feet—of the south-west wall, and the direction of the fourth side, the south-east. Roman Ribchester was thus a fort six acres in area. That it was of some importance, from its size and the nature of its relics, has already been shown in Watkin's *Roman Lancashire* and other works tabulated in Harrison's *Archæological Survey*.

Not the least important result obtained during these recent excavations has been the solving of several archæological problems connected with the masonry and general construction of the station. The trench that first indicated the southern corner also disclosed the wall standing (below the modern surface) to a height of six feet, of which the lowest three were of boulders, similar to those found in 1888, and the upper three were made up of four courses of regular faced stones of the usual Roman type—similar to that met with in the forts of the Hadrian Wall. The section of earth on each hand

also showed at the height of the lowest of these courses, which was of large stones, a black line of decayed vegetable fibre, which indicated the Roman surface. The boulders were thus a foundation to a wall of the more usual Roman type, which was found elsewhere to have been about six feet thick. In addition, the same section proved the stout oak

spars that are found lying symmetrically at the depth of the bottom of the boulders to be also of the nature of a foundation around the whole area on the inside of the wall.



A section of the fosse, or ditch, that surrounded the fort showed it to have been dug into a gravel bed at a distance from the walls of about twenty-five feet. Its breadth was twenty feet, and its depth seven feet, a layer of sediment apparently deposited on its sides being traceable even to a height of six feet from the bottom, where it was several inches thick. An examination of the levels and strata disclosed by the complete section thus obtained, from outside the ditch to the inside of the fort, enables several definite conclusions to be drawn, which are here briefly summarised.

The Romans chose as the situation for their fort a piece of ground rising gently to the north, on the north side of a river (the Ribble), below its junction with a brook. From its proximity to the water, the general atmospheric conditions, and its geological nature, the land must have been marshy; indeed, it is drained now only with difficulty.

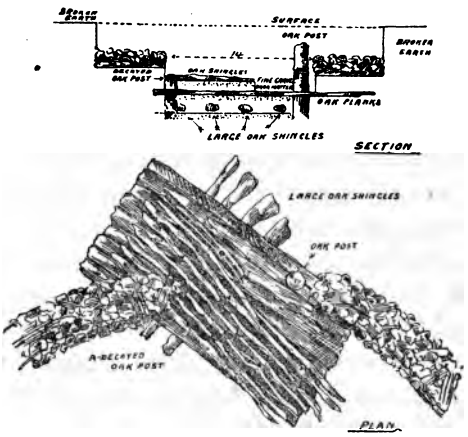
They mapped out their outline of this station to include an area of six acres, its highest point in the centre, rectangular in form, with its longer sides parallel to the river, at a distance approximately of four hundred feet, and with its shorter sides about the same distance from the stream.

Where the ground fell, or was uneven, they levelled it with dark clay, possibly from the several disused clay-pits at hand.

They took boulders from the river-bed, and for the north-western side some quantity of freestone from quarries to the north, and raised a rough outline wall three feet in height, with a thickness varying from five to eight feet.

Against the outside of this they placed the same dark clay, making a surface which sloped down to the original one. At a distance of twenty-five feet they dug a fosse twenty feet broad and six or seven feet deep, which, being sunk into a gravel bed, would of itself keep partly filled with water. The inner bank they lined with the same dark clay.

On the inside, over this clay, they placed against this wall oak spars, reaching inwards twenty feet, arranged symmetrically all round the enclosure. Over this they threw on earth to the height of the boulder wall, tending to level the whole interior, and raising, three feet above the original damp surface and the level of the water in the ditch without, an



PLAN AND SECTION OF DOORWAY; NORTH CORNER.

artificial surface upon which they lived. Over the boulders they built the wall they were accustomed to use, about six feet thick, with an inner and an outer facing, and rubble between.

The position of the entrances to this station remains a problem to be solved. Difficulties arise from the encroachment of the river, which has destroyed one-twelfth of the site, and from the fact that as a rule only foundations to the camp wall remain in position. An attempt is to be made to trace the five roads which are found tending towards the fort, to ascertain where they entered. The determination of this point would help considerably, by comparison with other forts, in laying out the interior; as yet few buildings have been met with.* On the wall, however, there are indications of a turret in the western corner, and the same feature is well preserved at the southern angle. Here, in addition, there has been a reconstruction of an interesting nature. The original design was to surmount the corner with a tower, in the usual way, its walls being three feet thick, and the enclosed chamber on the basement about ten feet by eleven. The approach to it was a descent of two feet by a short slope and two steps, from a street paved with river stones (cobbles) at the Roman surface level. A way out being subsequently desired at this corner, and the turret for defensive purposes being no longer required, a long passage was built, leading from the original entrance to the turret, through the walls of the fort, where the pressure on each side was supported by massive stones, and turning apparently in the direction of a well on the outside. Altogether this postern was forty feet in length; and inside the fort its masonry was preserved to a height of eight courses. The soil met with between its walls, unmingled as it was with any fallen stones, but yielding many fragments of pottery and a coin of the Emperor Domitian on the flags that form its floor, seems to show that the place has been in no way disturbed until comparatively modern years. It seems probable, however, from a comparison of the sections, and the position of various Roman

* Excavations now continuing have revealed the granary, and indications of four other buildings in the centre of the fort, one of which may prove to be the pretorium.—August 10th, 1899.

relics, that the tower, in part at least, was removed by the Romans themselves. The foundations of it on the easterly side, moreover, are of great interest; as they enclose with one wall of the passage a small space which has apparently served some subsequent purpose.

Another building seems to have rested against the south-east wall, its traces being recorded early in the century; and in the interior two or three more have been found. Now that the outline is determined, and the broader archæological problems are solved, the arrangement of the interior becomes a question of increasing interest.

Earthwork at Mellor.

On a hill three miles to the south of Ribchester there is a small entrenchment generally supposed to have been an outpost in connection with the Roman fort. Excavations now show that this was not the case, the earthwork being, in fact, comparatively modern. From local history it might date from the time of the Young Pretender. It yields the appearance of a trench, eleven feet wide, and three to four feet deep, surrounding a rectangular area thirty-eight feet by sixty-four. Some of the earth from the trench has been thrown inwards, raising a kind of vallum two feet high, and some outwards forming a lower mound, and giving the whole an external dimension of eighty-eight feet by one hundred and eight. It is to be found marked on the Ordnance sheets of the locality.

Early Pit-Dwelling Settlement.

On the moors above Accrington (Lancs. ord. sheet lxiii., S.E., Moleside Moor) there are a number of circular hollows in the ground, twenty-three having been noticed, commonly accounted for as "pit-sinkings." Their similarity to the external appearance of well-known pit-dwellings of the pre-Roman people of the north, as those on Pickering Moor in Yorkshire,

suggested, however, the probability of their being the remnants of an early settlement of the kind. A sounding made through the centre of one of them disclosed two feet of modern accumulation (earth and bones of cattle), next three to four feet of "marl," likewise the product of a longer period of time, and, finally, at a total depth of twelve feet below the modern surface a layer ten inches thick of burnt twigs, cinders, and decayed vegetable matter. It is proposed shortly to make a more complete examination. Superficially, the orifice at the surface is thirty feet wide, narrowing at a depth of four feet to fifteen, then sinking almost vertically two feet to the level at which the excavation began. Some earth has been piled around the orifice on the exposed sides. The pits are not, apparently, arranged in any definite form, though roughly representing two concentric semi-circles. The evidence regarding them at present renders it quite possible that they formed the homes of an early settlement. The dwellers in such caves are supposed to have arranged boughs and thatching in a conical form over the opening, in the centre of which would be a small hole for the escape of smoke from the fire kindled below.

On the same moors, distant about a mile in the direction of Hapton, there have been found the remains of a well-built medieval road, made of flat stones placed vertically, with the coping stones large, and the road between raised slightly in the form of an arch. It is about forty-two inches wide, and has been traced for half a mile.

A small stone image is said to have been found recently in the ruins of a bridge on the moors above Burnley. It is a carved emblem in stone resembling that of the locality, representing the Hindu god, Ganesh.

RULES.

Revised January, 1897.

1. PREAMBLE.—This Society is instituted to examine, preserve, and illustrate ancient Monuments and Records, and to promote the study of History, Literature, Arts, Customs, and Traditions, with particular reference to the antiquities of Lancashire and Cheshire.

2. NAME, &c.—This Society shall be called the "LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY."

3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.—Candidates for admission to the Society must be proposed by one member of the Society, and seconded by another. Applications for admission must be submitted in writing to the Council, who shall, as soon as possible after the receipt of the application, determine the election or otherwise of the candidate. Each new member shall have his election notified to him by the Honorary Secretary, and shall at the same time be furnished with a copy of the Rules, and be required to remit to the Treasurer, within two months after such notification, his entrance fee and subscription; and if the same shall be thereafter unpaid for more than two months, his name may be struck off the list of members unless he can justify the delay to the satisfaction of the Council. No new member shall participate in any of the advantages of the Society until he has paid his entrance fee and subscription. Each member shall be entitled to admission to all meetings

of the Society, and to introduce a visitor, provided that the same person be not introduced to two ordinary or general meetings in the same year. Each member shall receive, free of charge, such ordinary publications of the Society as shall have been issued since the commencement of the year in which he shall have been elected, provided that he shall have paid all subscriptions then due from him. The Council shall have power to remove any name from the list of members on due cause being shown to them. Members wishing to resign at the termination of the year can do so by informing the Honorary Secretary, in writing, of their intention, *on or before the 30th November*, in that year.

4. HONORARY MEMBERS.—The Council shall have the power of recommending persons for election as honorary members.

5. HONORARY LOCAL SECRETARIES.—The Council shall have power to appoint any person Honorary Local Secretary, whether he be a member or not, for the town or district wherein he may reside, in order to facilitate the collection of accurate information as to objects and discoveries of local interest.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS.—An annual subscription of ten shillings and sixpence shall be paid by each member. All such subscriptions shall be due in advance on the first day of January.

7. ENTRANCE FEE.—Each person on election shall pay an entrance fee of half a guinea in addition to his first year's subscription.

8. LIFE MEMBERSHIP.—A payment of seven guineas shall constitute the composition for life membership, including the entrance fee.

9. GOVERNMENT.—The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Council, consisting of the President of the Society, not more than six Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and fifteen members elected out of the general body of the members. The Council shall retire annually, but the members of it shall be eligible for re-election.

Any intermediate vacancy by death or retirement may be filled up by the Council. Four members of the Council to constitute a quorum. The Council shall meet at least four times yearly. A meeting may at any time be convened by the Honorary Secretary by direction of the President, or on the requisition of four members of the Council. Two Auditors shall be appointed by the members at the ordinary meeting next preceding the final meeting of the Session.

10. Mode of Electing Officers other than the Auditors.—The Honorary Secretary shall send out notices convening the annual meeting, and with such notices enclose blank nomination papers of members to fill the vacancies in the Council and Officers, other than the Auditor. The said notice and nomination paper to be sent to each member twenty-one days prior to the annual meeting. The nomination paper shall be returned to the Secretary not less than seven days before the annual meeting, such paper being signed by the proposer and seconder. Should such nominations not be sufficient to fill the several offices becoming vacant, the Council shall nominate members to supply the remaining vacancies. A complete list shall be printed, and in case of a contest such list shall be used as a ballot paper.

11. Sectional Committees.—The Council may from time to time appoint Sectional Committees, consisting of members of their own body and of such other members of the Society as they may think can, from their special knowledge, afford aid in such branches of archæology as the following: 1. Prehistoric Remains. 2. British and Roman Antiquities. 3. Medieval, Architectural, and other Remains. 4. Ancient Manners and Customs, Folk-Lore, History of Local Trades and Commerce. 5. Records, Deeds, and other MSS. 6. Numismatics. 7. Genealogy, Family History, and Heraldry. 8. Local Bibliography and Authorship.

12. Duties of Officers.—The duty of the President shall be to preside at the meetings of the Society, and to

maintain order. His decision in all questions of precedence among speakers, and on all disputes which may arise during the meeting, to be absolute. In the absence of the President or Vice-Presidents, it shall be competent for the members present to elect a chairman. The Treasurer shall take charge of all moneys belonging to the Society, pay all accounts passed by the Council, and submit his accounts and books, duly audited, to the annual meeting, the same having been submitted to the meeting of the Council immediately preceding such annual meeting. The duties of the Honorary Secretary shall be to attend all meetings of the Council and Society, enter in detail, as far as practicable, the proceedings at each meeting, conduct the correspondence, preserve all letters received, and convene all meetings by circular if requisite. He shall also prepare and present to the Council a Report of the year's work, and, after confirmation by the Council, shall read the same to the members at the annual meeting.

13. ANNUAL MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in the last week of January.

14. ORDINARY MEETINGS.—Ordinary meetings shall be held in Manchester at 6-15 p.m., on the *first Friday* of each month, from *October* to *April*, for the reading of papers, the exhibition of objects of antiquity, and the discussion of subjects connected therewith.

15. GENERAL MEETINGS.—The Council may, from time to time, convene general meetings at different places rendered interesting by their antiquities, architecture, or historic associations. The work of these meetings shall include papers, addresses, exhibitions, excavations, and any other practicable means shall be adopted for the elucidation of the history and antiquities of the locality visited.

16. EXPLORATION AND EXCAVATION.—The Council may, from time to time, make grants of money towards the cost of excavating and exploring, and for the general objects of the Society.

17. PUBLICATIONS.—Original papers and ancient documents communicated to the Society may be published in such manner as the Council shall from time to time determine. Back numbers of the *Transactions* and other publications of the Society remaining in stock may be purchased by any member of the Society at such prices as the Council shall determine.

18. PROPERTY.—The property of the Society shall be vested in the names of three Trustees to be chosen by the Council.

19. INTERPRETATION CLAUSE.—In these rules the masculine shall include the feminine gender.

20. ALTERATION OF RULES.—These Rules shall not be altered except by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting at the annual or at a special meeting convened for that purpose. Fourteen days' notice of such intended alteration is to be given to every member of the Society.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

The * denotes a Life Member.
The † denotes an Honorary Member.

Date of Election.	
	Abbott, James Henry, Heaton Mersey
December 7th, 1888	Abraham, Miss E. C., Grassendale Park, near Liverpool
September 4th, 1883	Adshead, G. H., Fern Villas, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Agnew, Sir William, Bart., 11, Great Stanhope Street, London
June 17th, 1884	Ainsworth, Mrs. Frank, Lostock Dene, Lostock, Bolton
October 11th, 1895	Albiston, Miss, Mount Heaton, Heaton Mersey
April 7th, 1899	Alderson, Rev. H. E., St. John's Rectory, Cheetham
November 4th, 1892	Allen, Rev. George, M.A., Shaw, Oldham
June 11th, 1886	Andrew, J. D., Lyme View, Davenport, Stockport
July 25th, 1885	Andrew, James, Lynwood, Westminster Road, Eccles
September 4th, 1883	Andrew, Samuel, St. John's Terrace, Hey Lees, Oldham
October 8th, 1886	Arning, C. H., West View, Victoria Park
April 15th, 1885	*Ashworth, Edmund, J.P., Egerton Hall, Bolton-le-Moors
December 4th, 1885	Ashworth, Joseph, Albion Place, Walmersley Road, Bury
April 14th, 1885	Atkinson, Rev. Canon, B.D., Gedney, Holbeach, Lincolnshire
November 5th, 1886	Attkins, Edgar, 69, Burton Road, Withington
October 12th, 1888	Axon, Ernest, Free Reference Library, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Axon, W. E. A., LL.D., M.R.S.L., 47, Derby Street, Moss Side
March 21st, 1883	*Bailey, Sir W. H., Sale Hall, Cheshire
October 10th, 1890	Ball, William, Manchester
February 7th, 1890	Barber, Robert, Winnats Knoll, Prestwich

January 11th, 1884	Barlow, John Robert, Greenthorne, Edgworth, Bolton
June 13th, 1885	Barlow, Miss Annie E. F., Greenthorne, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Barraclough, Thomas, C.E., 20, Bucklersbury, London
March 21st, 1883	Bateman, C. T. Tallent-, Cromwell Road, Stretford
January 7th, 1887	Baugh, Mrs., Edendale, Whalley Range
January 7th, 1887	*Bayley, Rev. C. J., M.A., 3, Phillimore Gardens, London, W.
July 30th, 1885	Bayley, Charles W., 5, Polygon, Eccles
October 11th, 1895	Baynes, Fred., Samlesbury Hall, Preston
June 26th, 1883	Baynton, Alfred, The Hollies, Clifton Road, Heaton Moor
1899	Beardwell, Arthur, 46, Slade Grove, Rusholme
December 1st, 1893	Beaumont, Jas. W., Fulshaw, Wilmslow
January 8th, 1892	Beckett, J. M., Newstead, Buxton
October 7th, 1892	Bellamy, C. H., F.R.G.S., Belmont, Brook Road, Heaton Chapel
January 29th, 1885	Berry, Charles F. Walton, 153, Moss Lane East, Moss Side
December 7th, 1883	Berry, James, Mayfield, Grimsargh, Preston
	Birkenhead Public Library
	Bolton Public Library
July 31st, 1886	Booth, James, 153, High Street, Oxford Road
November 6th, 1892	Bourke, Walter L., Worsley Old Hall
March 7th, 1890	Bowden, Daniel, The Grove, Oldfield Road, Altrincham
September 4th, 1883	Bowden, William, Gorsefield, Patricroft
January 14th, 1898	Bowman, Dr. Geo., Monifieth, Old Trafford
September 24th, 1897	Bradbury, Jno. H., 6, Bowker's Road, Bolton
June 26th, 1883	Bradsell, Rev. B. J. T., 21, South Street, Rochdale
November 5th, 1897	Brierley, Henry, Mab's Cross, Wigan
November 5th, 1886	Brimelow, William, Carlyle House, Bolton
May 7th, 1885	*Brockholes, W. Fitzherbert, J.P., Claughton Hall, Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
February 5th, 1897	Brocklebank, F. W., 2, Fold Street, Bolton
November 1st, 1895	Bromwich, F. A., 7, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
October 7th, 1887	Brooke, Alexander, 34, Craven Hill Gardens, Bayswater, London, W.
September 28th, 1883	Brooke, John, A.R.I.B.A., 18, Exchange Street, Manchester
April 7th, 1899	Brooks, S. H., Slade House, Levenshulme
March 21st, 1883	Brooks, Sir William Cunliffe, Bart., F.S.A., Barlow Hall, Manchester
October 10th, 1890	†Browne, Walter T., Chetham Hospital, Manchester
March 5th, 1886	Buckley, George F., Linfitts House, Delph, Oldham
September 26th, 1889	Burgess, John Shaftsbury House, Cheadle Hulme

June 18th, 1898	Burgess, Mrs., Shaftsbury House, Cheadle Hulme
December 2nd, 1887	*Butcher, S. F., Bury
March 3rd, 1899	Butterworth, Walter, Elleray, Regent Road, Altrincham
March 21st, 1883	Carington, H. H. Smith, 1, Stanley Grove, Oxford Road, Manchester
April 7th, 1899	Carlisle Public Library
October 8th, 1886	*Chesson, Rev. William H., Alnwick, Northumberland
January 23rd, 1893	Chorlton, Jno. Clayton, The Priory, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Christie, Richard Copley, LL.D., Ribsden, Bagshot, Surrey
March 21st, 1883	Churchill, W. S., 102, Birch Lane, Manchester
June 11th, 1886	Clarke, Dr. W. H., Park Green, Macclesfield
March 2nd, 1894	Claye, Herbert S., 259, Park Lane, Macclesfield
May 8th, 1896	Clayton, Robert H., B.Sc., 37, George Street, Cheetham Hill
February 7th, 1896	Collier, Rev. E. C., Holy Trinity Vicarage, Dinting
December 3rd, 1896	*Collier, Edward, Carlton House, Carlton Road, Whalley Range
January 11th, 1884	Collmann, Charles, Elmhurst, Ellesmere Park, Eccles
January 11th, 1895	Columbia Institute, New York
December 1st, 1893	Cooper, Thomas, Mossley House, Congleton
March 21st, 1883	Copinger, W. A., LL.D., F.S.A., Timperley
November 7th, 1884	Cowell, P., Free Library, Liverpool
January 7th, 1887	Cox, George F., Albert Street, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	†Crawford and Balcarres, The Right Hon. the Earl of, F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S., Haigh Hall, Wigan
March 21st, 1883	Creeke, Major A. B., Westwood, Burnley
March 21st, 1883	Crofton, H. T., Manor House, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury
November 6th, 1896	Crofton, R. F., 50, Ackers Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock
October 8th, 1886	*Crompton, Rev. Alfred, M.A., 15, St. Marie's Gate, Bury
October 10th, 1890	Cunliffe, William, Oak Lea, Albert Road, Heaton, Bolton
October 7th, 1887	Curnick, H. D., Glendale, Alderley Edge
March 21st, 1883	Darbishire, R. D., B.A., F.S.A., Victoria Park, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Darbyshire, Alfred, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Brazenose Street, Manchester
September 28th, 1883	*Dauntesey, Robert, Agecroft Hall, Manchester

March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Professor William Boyd, F.R.S., F.S.A., Woodhurst, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Mrs., Woodhurst, Fallowfield
April 1st, 1887	De Trafford, Sir Humphrey F., Bart., Manchester
September 26th, 1889	Dean, John, 31, Market Place, Middleton
November 2nd, 1883	Dearden, J. Griffith, Walcot Hall, Stamford
September 26th, 1889	Dehn, Rudolph, Olga Villa, Victoria Park
September 24th, 1897	*Derby, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Knowsley
March 21st, 1883	*Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of, K.G., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London
October 8th, 1898	Dodd, John, Werneth Road, Oldham
January 15th, 1886	Duncan, James, M.B., 24, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne
October 8th, 1886	*Eastwood, J. A., 49, Princess Street, Manchester
November 3rd, 1893	Edelston, John A., 31, Bold Street, Warrington
March 21st, 1883	*Egerton, Right Hon. the Earl, F.S.A., Tatton Park, Knutsford
1899	Elton, Thomas, Edenfield, near Bury
June 11th, 1886	*Ermen, Henry E., Rose Bank, Bolton Road, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Esdaile, George, C.E., The Old Rectory, Platt Lane, Rusholme
March 21st, 1883	*Evans, Sir John, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead
May 4th, 1883	Faithwaite, J. R., Manchester and Salford Bank Mosley Street
January 29th, 1885	Farrer, William, Marton House, Skipton
December 7th, 1895	Faulkner, Robert, Ellan Brook, Brooklands
October 11th, 1896	*Fernhead, Joseph, 1, Cyprus Street, Bolton
January 13th, 1899	Finlayson, John, 4, Woodlands, Daisy Bank Road, Longsight
December 5th, 1884	Finney, James, Solicitor, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Fishwick, Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A., The Heights, Rochdale
November 5th, 1897	Fleming, James, Westville, Malvern Grove, Withington
July 19th, 1898	Folkard, H. T., Free Public Library, Wigan
July 31st, 1886	Freeman, R. Knill, East View, Haulgh, Bolton
February 6th, 1885	French, Gilbert J., Thornydikes, Bolton
June 13th, 1885	French, Mrs., Thornydikes, Bolton
December 9th, 1886	*Frost, Robert, B.Sc., 53, Victoria Road, Kensington, W.
May 4th, 1883	Gadd, Very Rev. Monsignor, St. Chad's, Manchester
March 6th, 1896	Gandy, Barton, 124, Cecil Street, Moss Side

March 21st, 1883	Gill, Richard, 12, Tib Lane, Cross Street, Manchester
December 2nd, 1887	Gillibrand, W., M.R.C.S., Parkfield House, Chorley Road, Bolton
May 4th, 1883	Goodyear, Charles, 39, Lincroft Street, Moss Side
March 4th, 1898	Gradisky, C. J. Holt, Woodlands, Victoria Park
May 7th, 1885	Gradwell, Very Rev. Monsignor, Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
January 11th, 1884	Grafton, Miss, Heysham Hall, Lancaster
September 18th, 1885	Greenhough, Richard, Church Street, Leigh
June 11th, 1886	Güterbock, Alfred, Newington, Bowdon
March 21st, 1883	Hadfield, E., Barr Hill, Pendleton
November 7th, 1884	Hall, James, Edale, Broad Road, Sale
March 21st, 1883	Hall, Major G. W., Town Hall, Salford
October 10th, 1890	Hall, Oscar S., Park Cottage, Bury
January 27th, 1899	Halliwell, Charles, 158, Oldham Road, Shaw
November 6th, 1892	Hamilton, Thomas, The Elms, Altrincham
March 4th, 1898	Hamnett, Robert, 24, Norfolk Street, Glossop
December 5th, 1890	Hanson, George, Free Library, Rochdale
December 21st, 1892	Hardcastle, Thomas, Bradshaw Hall, Bolton
September 2nd, 1889	Harker, Robert B., 363, Moss Lane East, Moss Side
November 2nd, 1888	Harper, John, 8, Queen's Road, West Didsbury
February 6th, 1885	Harrison, William, Solicitor, 28, Booth Street, Manchester
February 7th, 1896	Harte, Fred. J., 21, Cannon Street, Manchester
March 31st, 1885	*Hawkesbury, Right Hon. the Lord, F.S.A., Kirkham Abbey, York
March 21st, 1883	Haworth, S. E., Worsley Road, Swinton
June 13th, 1885	Heape, Charles, Hartley High Lane, near Stockport
December 7th, 1883	Heape, Joseph R., Glebe House, Rochdale
October 10th, 1890	Heape, Robert Taylor, Halfacre, Rochdale
March 21st, 1883	Hearle, Rev. G. W., M.A., Newburgh, Wigan
October 7th, 1892	Henderson, George, 18, Nelson Square, Bolton
January 13th, 1899	Henn, Rev. Canon, M.A., Heaton Chapel
June 11th, 1886	Herford, Rev. P. M., M.A., The Rectory, Trinity Road, Edinburgh
September 4th, 1883	Hewitson, Anthony, Bank Parade, Preston
March 21st, 1883	Heywood, Nathan, 3, Mount Street, Manchester
March 3rd, 1899	Hindley, Charles E., Polygon, Eccles
June 17th, 1884	Hodgson, Edwin, 4, Worsley Grove, Stockport Road, Levenshulme
October 8th, 1886	*Holden, Arthur T., Waterfoot, Heaton, Bolton
April 7th, 1899	Holt, Oliver S., Sidcot, Ashley Heath, Bowdon
January 14th, 1898	Hopwood, Joseph, 103, Old Park Lane, Southport
December 7th, 1888	Hornby, Miss Clara, Vale Side, Langham Road, Bowdon
January 11th, 1884	*Houldsworth, Sir W. H., M.P., Knutsford

March 7th, 1884	Howorth, Daniel F., F.S.A.(Scot.), Grafton Place, Ashton-under-Lyne
March 21st, 1883	Howorth, Sir Henry H., M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A., 30, Collingham Place, Cromwell Road, London, S.W.
February 1st, 1895	Hudson, Rev. H. A., M.A., 1, Joynson Street, Cheetham
March 4th, 1887	Hughes, T. Cann, M.A., 78, Church Street, Lancaster
March 21st, 1883	Hulton, W. W. B., J.P., Hulton Park, Bolton
March 3rd, 1899	Humphreys, Herbert H., 5, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
December 2nd, 1899	Hutton, Rev. F. R. C., Witherslack Vicarage, Grange-over-Sands
November 5th, 1886	Jackson, Miss E. S., Burnside, Calder Vale, Garstang
December 7th, 1894	Jackson, Francis M., Sunnyside, Langham Road, Bowdon
September 26th, 1889	Jackson, Jno. R., 50, Gladstone Road, Urmston
May 4th, 1883	Jackson, S., Burnside, Calder Vale, Garstang
	John Rylands Library, Manchester
April 11th, 1890	Johnson, David, Albion House, Old Trafford
May 2nd, 1885	*Johnson, William, 91, Hulton Street, Moss Side
January 21st, 1886	Johnson, Mrs., 91, Hulton Street, Moss Side
March 4th, 1887	Johnstone, Rev. Thomas Boston, D.D., 116, Chorley New Road, Bolton
April 24th, 1896	Joynson, R. H., Chasefield, Bowdon
March 21st, 1883	Kay, J. Taylor, South View, Platt Lane, Rusholme
May 2nd, 1885	Kay, James, Lark Hill, Timperley
1899	Kay, S., J.P., Charleston House, Davenport, Stockport
June 11th, 1886	*Kay, Thomas, J.P., Moorfield, Stockport
January 14th, 1898	King, Alfred, Bleasdale, Garstang
October 10th, 1890	*Kirkham, William H. Hanmer Lee, Heaton Moor
March 21st, 1883	Kirkman, William Wright, 8, John Dalton Street, Manchester
January 26th, 1894	Knott, J. R., 103, Union Street, Oldham
March 7th, 1890	Lancaster, Alfred, Free Library, St. Helens
April 7th, 1899	Lancaster Public Library
January 14th, 1898	Langton, David H., Morningside, Flixton
October 12th, 1888	Larmuth, George H., F.S.I., The Grange, Handforth
September 24th, 1897	Larmuth, G. Harold, The Grange, Handforth
January 27th, 1899	Law, Miss, Roslin, Manor Avenue, Urmston
July 18th, 1885	*Lawton, Mrs., Altrincham

March 21st, 1883	Leech, Professor D. J., M.D., F.R.C.P., Elm House, Whalley Range
March 21st, 1883	Leech, Mrs., Elm House, Whalley Range
December 7th, 1883	Leech, Miss M. L., Ashton House, Ashton-on-Mersey
April 26th, 1889	*Lees, John W., Greengate, Chadderton, Oldham
March 21st, 1883	Letts, Rev. E. F., M.A., The Rectory, Newton Heath
June 11th, 1886	*Lever, Ellis, Colwyn Bay
November 4th, 1892	Lobenhoffer, Prof. Carl, Sunny Bank, Wilmslow
March 21st, 1883	Lord, H., 42, John Dalton Street, Manchester
September 4th, 1883	*Lubbock, Sir John, Bart., M.P., F.S.A., 15, Lombard Street, London
November 4th, 1898	Macpherson, Donald D., Bexton Croft, Knutsford
August 15th, 1885	*Makinson, W. G., Montrose Villa, Ashton-on-Ribble
March 21st, 1883	March, H. Colley, M.D., F.S.A., Portesham, Dorchester
November 6th, 1896	Marsden, Richard, Clyde Road, West Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Martin, William Young, M.D., J.P., The Limes, Walkden, Bolton
November 5th, 1886	Massey, Arthur W., 27, Ackers Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock
November 1st, 1895	Mayer, Charles, Architect, John Dalton Street, Manchester
February 3rd, 1899	Middleton, Thomas, 8, Manchester Road, Hyde
March 21st, 1883	Milner, George, J.P., Elmscot, Timperley
January 13th, 1899	Moore, A. B., Brookfield, Urmston
March 21st, 1883	Moorhouse, Frederick, 51, Central Road, Withington
May 8th, 1896	Mosley, William, Cheadle
January 8th, 1892	Moss, Fletcher, Old Parsonage, Didsbury
November 3rd, 1899	Moss, William J., 5, Cross Street, Manchester
April 24th, 1896	Mullen, Ben H., M.A., Peel Park, Salford
April 24th, 1896	Musgrave, Jas., jun., Knowsley Grange, Heaton, Bolton
November 1st, 1895	Naylor, James, 15, Queen's Road, West Didsbury
January 27th, 1893	Neal, Thos. Dale, Wilmslow
October 7th, 1887	*Neville, Charles, Bramhall Hall, Stockport
	New York Public Library
November 4th, 1892	Newman, Thos., Atkinson Free Library, Southport
March 21st, 1883	Newton, Miss, Holly House, Flixton
June 26th, 1883	Newton, C. E., Timperley Lane, Altrincham
September 4th, 1883	Nicholson, Albert, Portinscale, Hale, Bowdon
April 7th, 1899	Nicholson, E. W. B., Bodleian Library, Oxford
March 21st, 1882	Nicholson, J. Holme, M.A., Ellerhow, Wilmslow
January 26th, 1894	Norbury, Mrs. Jonathan, Ramsey, Isle of Man
August, 1899	Nuttall, J. R., 13, Thornfield, Lancaster

March 6th, 1896	Ogden, J. N., Piccadilly, Manchester
October 8th, 1886	Oldham Free Library
October 11th, 1895	Ormerod, Ben., Sandywood, Pendlebury
January 31st, 1890	Ormerod, J. P., Castleton, near Manchester
October 10th, 1890	Ormerod, Thomas P., Castleton, Manchester
April 2nd, 1886	*Owen, Major-General C. H., R.A., Dulverton, Tarborough House, Southsea, Hants
April 16th, 1886	†Owen, John, 36, Warwick Street, Hulme
March 21st, 1883	Oxley, H. M., Deansgate, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Oxley, Thomas, Helme House, Ellesmere Park, Eccles
January 11th, 1895	Parker, John, Springfield Lane Oil Works, Salford
January 26th, 1894	Parker, Thomas, 49, Trevelyan Buildings, Corporation Street, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Pearson, George, Marsden Square, Manchester
October 8th, 1886	Pearson, Henry, Union Bank, Salford (deceased)
September 26th, 1889	Pearson, Joseph, 45, The Crescent, Salford
January 27th, 1893	Pearson, Mrs., 45, The Crescent, Salford
May 4th, 1883	Peel, Robert, Fulshaw Avenue, Wilmslow
November 6th, 1896	*Phelps, Josh. J., 46, The Park, Eccles
July 25th, 1885	Posnett, W. A.
March 5th, 1886	Potter, Robert Cecil, Heald Grove, Rusholme
April 7th, 1899	Preston, R. Basnett, F.R.I.B.A., 51, South King Street, Manchester
September 22nd, 1899	Pugh, Rev. George Augustus, M.A., R.D., The Rectory, Ashton-under-Lyne
October 7th, 1887	Pullinger, William, Fernacre, Romiley
April 2nd, 1886	Radford, W. Harold, County Offices, Preston
December 7th, 1888	Redford, Walter J., Deane Holme, Deane, Bolton
April 14th, 1885	Redhead, R. Milne, F.L.S., Holden Clough, Bolton-by-Bowland, Clitheroe
October 17th, 1884	Reid, David, Bower Bank, Bowdon
March 21st, 1883	Renaud, Frank, M.D., F.S.A., Hillside, Alderley Edge
May 4th, 1883	Reynolds, Rev. G. W., M.A., Elwick Hall, Castle Eden, Durham
January 13th, 1899	Ridyard, John, F.G.S., Hilton Bank, Little Hulton
September 29th, 1884	Rimmer, John H., M.A., LL.M., Madeley, Newcastle, Staff.
November 13th, 1890	Rivers, General Pitt, F.R.S., F.S.A., Rushmore, Salisbury
December 22nd, 1884	Robinow, Max, Fairoak, West Didsbury
May 2nd, 1885	*Robinson, J. B., F.R.M.S., Devonshire House, Mossley
December 21st, 1892	Robinson, Captain Marshall, The Park, Sharples
November 3rd, 1893	Robinson, W. H., Blackfriars Street, Manchester
February 4th, 1887	Roeder, Charles, Emsee Cottage, Amherst Street, Derby Road, Withington
July 26th, 1884	*Roper, W. O., F.S.A., Yealand Conyers, Carnforth

May 4th, 1883	Rowbotham, G. H., 11, Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
April 22nd, 1884	Rudd, John, 172, Palatine Road, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Russell, Rev. Canon E. J., M.A., The Vicarage, Todmorden
March 21st, 1883	*Rylands, Thomas G., F.S.A., Highfield, Thelwall, Warrington
May 4th, 1883	Sandbach, J.E., Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
April 14th, 1885	*Schwabe, Charles, The Orchards, Ashton-upon-Mersey
October 9th, 1885	Scott, E. D., Greenbank, Ashton-upon-Mersey
June 26th, 1883	Scott, Fred, 33, Brazenose Street, Manchester
1899	Scott, Walter, 6, Alexandra Terrace, Slade Lane, Rusholme
November 5th, 1897	Seed, Geo. H., Reinbeck, Lansdowne Road, Didsbury
November 3rd, 1893	Sever, W. M., Fern Bank, Conway
January 20th, 1893	Seville, Richard Taylor, 49, Stockport Road, Mossley
March 21st, 1883	Shaw, Giles, 4, Ash Street, Southport
November 7th, 1884	Shaw, James, 89, Walmersley Road, Bury
November 18th, 1884	Sheriff, Herbert, Dean's Villa, Swinton
May 8th, 1896	Simpson, Jonathan, 14, Acresfield, Bolton
March 4th, 1898	Slinger, J. S., 98, Church Street, Lancaster
March 21st, 1883	Smith, C. C., Marsden House, Muswell Hill, N.
March 7th, 1884	Smith, David, J.P., Highfield, Schools Hill, Cheadle
October 8th, 1897	Smith, Francis, Egerton Terrace, Chorlton Road, Manchester
October 8th, 1886	Smith, Thomas E., Central Chambers, Fold Street, Bolton
June 11th, 1886	Smith, William Ford, Woodstock, West Didsbury
January 11th, 1889	Smith, Wm. Jas., The Newlands, Leigh
April 5th, 1889	Smithies, Harry, 21, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
March 3rd, 1899	Smithies, Miss, 21, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
January 13th, 1899	Snape, Henry, Snowdon Road, Eccles
March 21st, 1883	Standring Alfred, LL.M., M.A., Dunwood Hall, near Endon, Stoke-on-Trent
March 21st, 1883	Stanning, Rev. J. H., M.A., Leigh Vicarage, Lancashire
October 12th, 1894	Stead, Alice M., 3, Belgrave Place, Birkdale Road, Southport
October 11th, 1895	Stead, Edward F., 10, Adelaide Terrace, Waterloo, Liverpool
February 3rd, 1899	Stirrup, Mark, F.G.S., High Thorns, Bowdon
July 26th, 1884	*Storey, Herbert L., Lancaster

October 10th, 1890	Sutcliffe, John, Brookbank, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
March 6th, 1896	Sutcliffe, William Henry, Shore Cottage, Littleborough
March 21st, 1883	†Sutton, Charles W., F.L.A., 7, Beaconsfield, Derby Road, Withington
April 2nd, 1886	*Tatham, Leonard, M.A., 1, St. James's Square, Manchester
October 12th, 1888	Tatton, Thomas E., Wythenshawe Hall
November 7th, 1884	Taylor, Alexander, St. Mary's Place, Bury
January 29th, 1892	Taylor, George, Buena Vista, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Henry, Braeside, Tunbridge Wells
October 11th, 1896	Taylor, Isaac, Stanford, Rusholme
November 1st, 1895	Taylor, J. C., The Gables, Bramhall Park, Cheadle Hulme
March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Joshua, 277, Moorside, Droylsden
April 7th, 1899	Taylor, Walter, Windsor Place, Victoria Park, Manchester
October 8th, 1897	Taylor, Walter T., Greenmount, Westgate Avenue, Bolton
February 7th, 1890	Taylor, William, Thurstones, Bennett's Lane, Bolton
October 12th, 1888	Thomasson, J. C., 9a, St. Peter's Square, Manchester
June 30th, 1885	*Trappes, Charles J. B., J.P., Stanley House, Clitheroe
October 8th, 1886	*Tristram, Wm. H., Darcy Lever Hall, Bolton
November 6th, 1896	Turner James, Halliwell Street, Corporation Street, Manchester
February 5th, 1886	Turner, William, Purby Chase, Atherstone
July 31st, 1886	Underdown, H. W., 7, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.
December 7th, 1883	Waddington, William Angelo, St. Ann's Square, Manchester
July, 1899	Wagstaffe, John, Mottram House, Mottram-in-Longdendale
July 31st, 1886	Wales, George Carew, Conservative Club, Manchester
March 2nd, 1894	Warburton, Samuel, Langley, Broughton Park, Manchester
November 6th, 1885	Warburton, W. Daulby, M.A., 83, Bignor Street, Cheetham
May 4th, 1883	Ward, A. W., M.A., LL.D., 77, Addison Road, Kensington, London, W.
March 21st, 1883	Ward, James, B.A., Public Library, Leigh

June 11th, 1886	*Waters, Edwin H., Millmead, Axmouth, Colyford, Devon
July 31st, 1886 .	Watson, W. Alfred, 11, Mayfield Grove, Embden Street, Hulme
October 12th, 1888	*Watt, Miss, Speke Hall, near Liverpool
April 6th, 1894	Watts, James, Abney Hall, Cheadle
September 24th, 1897	*Wearing, James W., M.A., J.P., Fleet Square, Lancaster
May 4th, 1883	Webb, Richard, 438, Moss Lane East, Manchester
March 2nd, 1895	Webber, Harry, 34, Brundrett Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
March 3rd, 1899	Weber, Dr. Carl Otto, Heathfield, Middleton Road, Crumpsall
June 18th, 1898	Webster, W. D., Oxford House, Bicester, Oxon.
April 7th, 1899	Whitney, George James, Warwick Terrace, Stretford
July, 1899	Whittington, Rev. Canon R. T., Northenden Rectory
November 6th, 1896	Whowell, Fred, Two Brooks, Tottington, Bury
December 21st, 1892	Wilkinson, J. P., C.E., 7, Arcade Chambers, St. Mary's Gate, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	*Wilkinson, Thomas Read, Vale Bank, Knutsford
July 31st, 1886	Wimpory, Alfred, Arts Club, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	*Wood, R. H., F.S.A., Belmont, Sidmouth, South Devon
December 2nd, 1892	Woodburne, George B. L., M.A., The Cottage, Barton-on-Irwell
April 11th, 1890	Woodhouse, Samuel T., Abbotsley, Knutsford
March 21st, 1883	Worthington, Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., Broomfield, Alderley Edge
May 4th, 1883	Wright, T. Frank, 33, Whitelow Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
March 21st, 1883	†Yates, George C., F.S.A., Swinton, Manchester

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RICHARD GILL, TIB LANE,
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NOTE.

The value of this Index to archæologists is now recognised. Every effort is made to keep its contents up to date and continuous, but it is obvious that the difficulties are great unless the assistance of the societies is obtained. If for any reason the papers of a society are not indexed in the year to which they properly belong the plan is to include them in the following year; and whenever the papers of societies are brought into the Index for the first time they are then indexed from the year 1891.

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Societies will greatly oblige by communicating any omissions or suggestions to

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Uncumber (St.): *Simpson*.

Verulamium: *Winstone*.
Viking antiquities: *Read*.

Wales: *Ellis*, *Glynn*, *Lewis*, *Meyer*, *Owen*, *Roberts*, *Seebohm*, *Thomas*, *Williams*.
Waltham: *Compton*, *Lynam*, *Stamp*.
Warwickshire: *Andrews*, *Kemp*. *See* "Coventry," "Mancetter."
Waters Upton: *Vane*.
Waxed tablets: *Hughes*.
Wells: *Church*.
Wesley (John): *Birrel*.
West Tarring: *André*.
Westbury-on-Severn: *Wilkinson*.
Westbury-on-Trym: *Taylor*.
Westminster: *Hilton*, *Read*.
Westmorland: *Cowper*, *Ferguson*. *See* "Burrell Green," "Hugill," "Kirkby Lonsdale."
Wetherhal: *Prescott*.
Whitecliff: *Payne*.
Wight (Isle of): *See* "Knighton," "Carisbrook."
Wigtownshire: *Coles*.
Wilderspool: *May*.
Wills: *Crisp*, *Fitzherbert*, *Hart*, *Hartopp*, *Malden*, *Sherwood*, *Shropshire*.

Wiltshire: *Brooke.* *See* "Downton." "Malmesbury," "Mere," "Salisbury," "Sarum," "Stourhead."
Winchester: *Colson.*
Wing: *Tatham.*
Winwedfield: *Bates.*
Wirral: *Irvine.*
Wombridge: *Morris.*
Woodbridge: *Arnott, Raven, Redstone.*
Woodbury: *Fulford.*
Woolwich: *Norman.*
Worcestershire: *Willis-Bund.* *See* "Cotheridge."
Worlington (East): *Gruchet.*
Wraxall: *Master.*
Wroxeter: *Fox.*
Wycliffe (John): *Fletcher.*

York: *Skaife.*
Yorkshire: *Addy, Blashill, Eshelby, Norcliffe, Skaife, Stephenson, Stowe.* *See* "Keld," "Pule Hill," "York."

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